

Sunday School Board loses defamation suit

By Linda Lawson
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—A former employee of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board has been awarded \$400,000 by a jury in the Third Circuit Court after an eight-day trial in the \$1.5 million lawsuit he filed against the board.

Don Burnett, 42, a former personnel placement consultant, was awarded \$300,000 in compensatory damages and \$100,000 in punitive damages on the charge of defamation, one of six allegations in the suit.

Judge Joe C. Loser Jr. directed verdicts in favor of the board on five other charges. Loser also dismissed William O. Thomason as a defendant in the case. Thomason was executive vice president of the board in 1976, when events leading up to the suit took place.

Verdicts directed by Loser in favor of the board included allegations of assault and battery, wrongful discharge, gross negligence, outrageous conduct and false arrest and imprisonment.

Loser said he made his decisions because the plaintiff had either failed to show proof or the charges did not meet statutory requirements.

Defamation defined
In his instruction to the jury, Loser defined defamation as "the malicious communication of false information tending to expose another living person to public hatred, contempt or ridicule and deprive another of the benefits of public confidence or social acceptance."

To decide in favor of Burnett, Loser said jurors must determine that Cothen, acting as president of the board, made a false and defamatory communication about Burnett, that the communication had been made with specific intent to injure or with the knowledge that it was false. Loser said the jury also must determine that the plaintiff suffered economic loss.

After the announcement of the jury's verdict, reached after two hours of deliberation, board president Grady Cothen said he will request attorneys for the board to file a motion for a new trial.

"We will explore all legal remedies. We do not believe the verdict is supported by the evidence," Cothen said. Burnett told reporters following the verdict, "I am glad that through this trial, the truth was known."

The suit, filed in the spring of 1977, arose after Burnett went to Cothen in July 1976 to express his concerns that certain board employees might be involved in massive conspiracies to defraud the board of funds and that some officials were engaged in sexual misconduct.

During the trial, Burnett testified he had no concrete facts upon which to base his concerns. However, names of numerous employees surfaced in connection with rumors reported by Burnett.

Several telephone conversations with Cothen in July and August 1976, Burnett told Cothen he feared board executives involved in improprieties would hire someone to ambush or kill him for reporting his concerns. He said

he was carrying a gun in his car for protection.

Cothen testified that he investigated some of Burnett's allegations and found no evidence to support them and that he became concerned about Burnett's mental health and for the safety of board employees. On Aug. 2 he asked Burnett to see a psychiatrist. Dan Calhoun, who had been suggested by Thomason.

Burnett voluntarily went to Calhoun on Aug. 3 and Aug. 4 and at the conclusion of his second visit, Calhoun recommended hospitalization for further evaluation. Burnett refused.

Calhoun then called Cothen, told him he believed Burnett possessed the likelihood of harm to himself or others, and advised him to have the police pick up Burnett and take him to be examined by another psychiatrist.

Calhoun told Cothen he had filled out emergency commitment papers and a form certifying the need for hospitalization for evaluation, papers which the police were supposed to pick up before taking Burnett to the hospital.

Cothen testified he checked with legal counsel to verify proper procedures for emergency hospitalization before acting.

Testimony showed Burnett was picked up by police on the parking lot of the board and taken to the hospital. He was released that day, however, after conversations between his personal physician and the psychiatrist who was to perform the second examination.

Following the parking lot incident on Aug. 4, Cothen spoke briefly to employees in chapel Aug. 6 about Burnett, without mentioning him by name. His remarks, tape recorded, were introduced as evidence in the trial.

Cothen told employees on Aug. 6, 1976:

"Some of you witnessed, in spite of our best efforts, an unfortunate experience in the parking lot on the day before yesterday, which we did our best to prevent. In spite of our plans it didn't come off in privacy as we had hoped."

"It has come to my attention that there are about the board wild rumors about what went on there, so let me say the only thing that went on there was an attempt on our part, acting upon competent advice, legally and medically, to attempt to get some help for one of our brothers who, in the judgment of competent authority, needed some help. He has not done anything bad. He has not done anything wrong. He is a respected Christian brother who does not deserve our judgment. He does not deserve our censure. He deserves our prayers."

"He will not return to the board until he obtains help, if he needs it."

After Aug. 4, 1976, Burnett was given a three-month leave of absence with pay and benefits and told he could return to the board with certification from a psychiatrist that he was able to resume his duties.

He was terminated Nov. 4, 1976, because he had failed to provide medical evidence concerning his health, and subsequently filed suit.



Tom Higginbotham, a cross-country cyclist for missions, talks with Mrs. C. D. Pollan, former educational director, and Mrs. Lora Mitchell, both of First Baptist Church, Itta Bena.

Billy Peacock named to head FMB's partnership evangelism

By Mary Jane Welch
RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Billy Peacock, a former Mississippi pastor and a veteran foreign missionary, has been named to direct Southern Baptist partnership evangelism as the SBC Foreign Mission Board moved closer to full responsibility for the program.

Partnership evangelism, which links Southern Baptist churches to churches overseas through an exchange of pastor-led teams of laypersons, was most strongly promoted by the World Evangelism Foundation, which in December announced it would phase out its organization because of Foreign Mission Board plans to accelerate partnership evangelism around the world.

At the meeting in which Peacock's

selection was announced, W. H. (Dub) Jackson Jr., president of WEF, was appointed a missionary and named field coordinator for the program. Jackson and his wife, Doris, will be assigned for the first year to Europe and the Middle East.

Peacock, a general evangelist assigned to Korea since his appointment 13 years ago, has been missionary director of major cities evangelism in Korea since 1978. The project culminated last year in crusades led by volunteer teams from Florida and Louisiana which resulted in more than 18,000 Christian commitments.

Beginning Jan. 1, Peacock will work with Ervin Hasty, evangelism and church growth consultant. By then, the board will have taken responsibility for completion of 17 partnership campaigns already being planned with national conventions overseas.

New staff members also will be added in the board's office of human resources to work with enlistment and

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Auditors still working

Clarke, Mississippi College merger nears completion

By Don McGregor
Steps in the merger of Clarke College and Mississippi College are moving along toward culmination, according to spokesmen of both institutions. Both A. C. Johnson, president of Clarke College, and Charles Martin, vice-president for academic affairs at Mississippi College, have indicated that progress toward the merger is proceeding smoothly.

Martin said some third-year classes and some graduate courses will be

added to the Clarke campus selection this fall. A survey is under way at this time to seek to determine the needs that the merged institution might meet on the Clarke campus. Phil McCarty of the Mississippi College faculty, is coordinating the survey.

Martin said the directors of association missions in the state are providing voluntary help for the survey. The hope is to provide help for ministers at any level of educational attainment from less than high school graduation

to a seminary diploma, Martin indicated.

Johnson said the Clarke trustees have adopted resolutions that have turned the affairs of Clarke College over to Mississippi College. All of the legal work necessary for the merger has been completed, he said. Auditors are working at this point to get all of the financial matters into perspective, he added. When that is completed, the Mississippi College trustees will take appropriate action to complete the

merger, Martin said.

The office of president at Clarke College will be phased out on Aug. 1, Johnson noted. He added that Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, had asked him to remain on the Mississippi College staff in a development capacity at least until Dec. 31.

The merger of the two institutions was approved last year by the Mississippi Baptist Convention following a request for its consideration by the Clarke trustees.

Cyclist "peddles" foreign missions

By Tim Nicholas
When Tom Higginbotham pulled into a service station in Itta Bena to ask directions to First Baptist church, he bought no gasoline. Maybe he needed a little air in his tires, but definitely no gas.

Higginbotham, 25, guest speaker for a recent Wednesday evening service at the church, was on a bicycle and Itta Bena marked completion of the first 2,500 miles of a 3,325 mile trek across the United States.

Higginbotham, a resident of Walker, La., was traveling across the country on bicycle to tell church groups about volunteer missions. He had already spoken to 28 groups—from Vacation Bible Schools to Woman's Missionary Unions to Sunday Schools.

His talks concerned his own experiences as a missions volunteer in Surinam. He spent nine months there working with missionaries who include James and Zelma Foster, who are from Mississippi.

While he was still in Surinam he devised the trip which began in San Diego, Calif., May 4 and is to conclude July 30 in Richmond, Va., headquarters of the Foreign Mission Board.

He calculated his route and wrote churches along the route asking for opportunities to speak about his experiences. "A lot have bent over backwards to schedule me," he said.

He said in an interview that the fact churches had faith to schedule me was enough to keep me going during some of the rougher spots on the trip—like the 14 hours it took to go uphill 52 miles from Wickenburg to Prescott, Ariz. Somewhere along that interval, his bike fell over and he lost his radio, not

realizing it for many miles. He didn't go back.

The isolation allowed a lot of thinking and "talking constantly to God." He slept in his tent about half the way, accepting indoor hospitality the other nights. While in the tent he said he slept with one eye open—but that he was sleeping a lot better than ever before and that he had never been in better shape.

During his volunteer days, Higginbotham, a petroleum inspector by trade, led Sunday School groups, ministered in a prison he compared to that pictured in the movie "Papillon," and did a lot of driving to deliver people to worship services.

"You're getting your money's worth," he told the congregation in Itta Bena, concerning their gifts to the Cooperative Program and to foreign missions in Surinam in particular.

He said that Surinam, a country of a half million people with only 500 Americans, a large Hindu and Javanese population, and the national language of which is Dutch, needs more volunteers—as does practically every other mission post manned by Southern Baptists.

As he concluded his slide show of the work in Surinam he noted that he'd been sitting in a congregation in his home church, when Fred Day, a missionary to Surinam, brought his slides to show. That was when Higginbotham knew he would go to Surinam as a volunteer and that it was "God's will for my life." Perhaps, he said, someone in the Itta Bena congregation or elsewhere along his route would feel the same desire.

Food poisoning strikes Ridgecrest

By Linda Lawson
RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Approximately 250 persons were stricken with food poisoning at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center Saturday night, July 25.

About 50 persons were hospitalized in five area hospitals, with 200 others treated and released. Only 15 remained hospitalized Sunday, none in critical condition.

Approximately 2,400 persons had checked into the conference center

Saturday for a week-long Sunday School Leadership Conference which opened Saturday night.

Following dinner at 5:30 p.m., conference center manager Ken McNear said the first report of illness came at 7:30 p.m. The last person was taken to a hospital at 12:20 a.m. Sunday.

McNear said all emergency vehicles from the Buncombe and McDowell County rescue squads and ambulance services were used to transport people to hospitals in Asheville and Marion, N.C.

McNear said an investigation started immediately to determine the cause of the food poisoning, and is being conducted by conference center and Buncombe County health department officials.

"We deeply regret this incident and will pursue all avenues to determine the cause and then take measures to be sure it doesn't happen again," the conference center manager said.

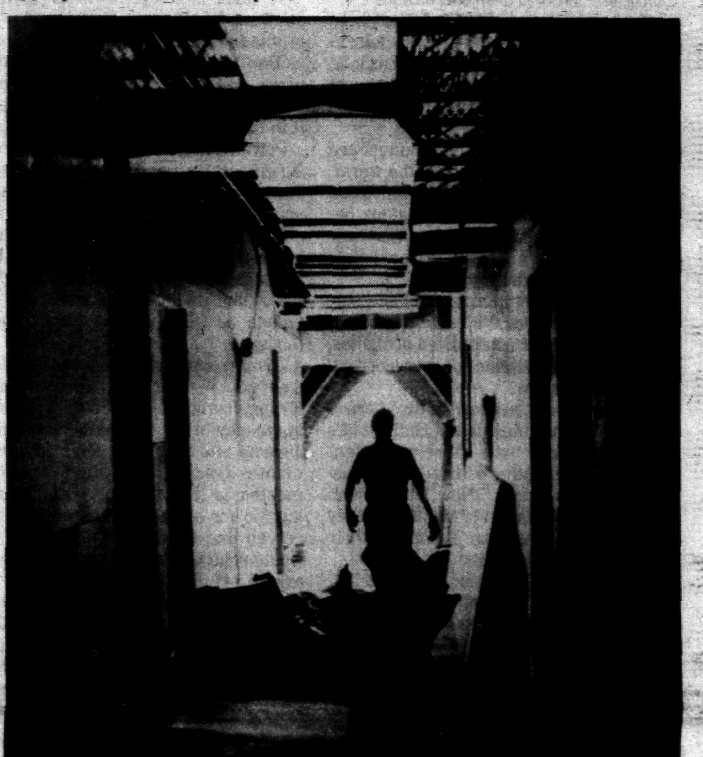
McNear praised the Black Mountain Rescue Squad and the local Civil Defense Unit, headed by Capt. Jerry VeHau, for doing "a superb job" in coordinating the ambulance service.

At one point Interstate 40 in front of the conference center was blocked to allow ambulances to enter and leave the conference center more quickly. In Asheville, streets were blocked to enable emergency vehicles to proceed to the three hospitals receiving patients.

At the conference center, an emergency plan was activated. Persons who became ill were taken to the infirmary where they received preliminary treatment before being taken to a hospital.

Residence hall hostesses and staffers conducted room checks to locate persons who needed treatment.

As people received treatment at the hospitals and were released to return (Continued on page 2)



Fred Cockrell, member of First Baptist Church, Columbus, was one of hundreds involved in a "Miracle of Columbus" project recently. He is shown clearing a hall of a music-educational building the church is building itself. (More photos on page 2).

Help begets help for church builders

By Tim Nicholas
One church plans a building project and another church travels 1,000 miles to help out. One church is in Matawan, N.J., the other is in Columbus, Miss. Question: Which church travels and which church builds? Answer: both.

Two years ago, 75 members of First Baptist Church, Columbus, flew to Matawan, N.J., to help build a building for Calvary Baptist Church there. This summer 27 of the Matawanians returned the favor helping the Columbus build a building of its own.

The Matawan church is 60 percent completion in two weeks, primarily by the Columbus group, became known locally as the "Miracle church." On a commuter line, the church was noted for being built so fast.

Growth in membership has come fast for the Matawan church. Two years ago there were about 30 families involved. Now there are 85-90 families.

Andy Mandez of the Matawan volunteer group that came to Mississippi said that a bond of love had been created. "They loved us first and we're loving them back."

Twenty-seven of the Matawan church members chartered a bus from an Orlando, Fla., Christian ministry called Lynx—at half the going commercial rate—to travel to Columbus the week of July 12-17.

The Columbus project, nicknamed by church members as "The Miracle of Columbus" was a mission trip where everybody stayed at home.

Bryan Harris, minister of youth at First Church, Columbus, heard from many of his members after the Matawan trip, and after other trips to help other churches. "Why can't we do this in Columbus?"

The need for a new music-educational building provided the opportunity to build a mission trip and save plane fare. So the church members and staff devised a stay-at-home mission trip that centered around building the 9,000 square foot addition to the church. They also operated 41 Backyard Bible Clubs (enrolling over 400 children with about 200 volunteers), and conducted a survey in advance of the church's Starlite Crusade, Aug. 2-7, pastor Joe McKeever, preaching. The survey with 24 volunteers, involved two steps. The first visit was to see if the people have a

church home. A second call would be to those responding that they had no church home to present a gospel witness and invite to the crusade.

Harris, prime mover in the project, including the organization of two work teams who clocked in from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and from 6 p.m. to midnight during the two week schedule, said it was high time for a local project. "I've been saying it's more glamorous to go to New Jersey than to stay in Mississippi," he said.

First Baptist contracted out the work on the superstructure including steel and masonry work. The rest—interior work—electrical, plumbing, and finishing work was done by volunteers. Three meals a day were served by the women of the church.

The church raised over \$275,000 cash to pay for the materials and is going into a new building debt-free.

Hitchhikers get more than a ride

TRUJILLO, Peru—A Southern Baptist missionary and a Peruvian pastor had no idea when they picked up three men walking to the mountain pueblo of Julcan, Peru, that the ride might lead to 23 new converts.

Karl Wallace, the missionary, and Julio Villar, the pastor, offered a ride to a man who was a member of the mission at Julcan and to Vicente and his son, Pedro, from the pueblo of Oromaque.

As they rode, Villar swung the conversation around to Jesus Christ. Using a Spanish version of the New Testament, he led the father and son to a personal encounter with Christ. Wallace gladly stopped the car as they prayed to receive Christ.

After they arrived at Julcan, the lay pastor there baptized five new believers in the community. Vicente became excited as he watched the baptisms and asked Villar, Wallace and some of the believers from Jucan to come to his pueblo to share Christ with his family.

The next day, Villar, Wallace and three Christians from Julcan jour- (Continued on page 3)

Hymers, Powell to distribute thesis despite author's plea

By Norman Jameson
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—"It will take a court order" to get R. L. Hymers to stop distributing copies of a thesis he says documents liberalism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Hymers, a Hollywood, Calif., evangelist, and William A. Powell Sr., editor of the *Southern Baptist Journal*, an independent publication, plan to distribute hundreds of copies of the thesis in exchange for donations to the financially plagued publication, despite the author's request they stop.

Noel Hollyfield Jr. wrote the thesis in 1976 as part of requirements toward a master of theology degree. It was written from surveys conducted with 190 students, including 39 graduate students, to see if he could determine degrees of "Christian orthodoxy" among them. Southern's enrollment at the time was 2,113.

According to the thesis, the results were so skewed toward the "orthodox" they could not be analyzed with normal distribution tests.

It did, however, conclude that "as higher education increased, 'orthodoxy' decreased." That conclusion loaded the guns of the most conservative element in the SBC which has long targeted the six seminaries in general and Southern in particular for charges of liberalism.

But Hollyfield says his findings are similar to findings all over the world, among all faiths, that higher education decreases orthodoxy in religious beliefs. Similar studies show that age and the number of years in a pastorate increase orthodoxy.

Orthodoxy for purposes of the survey is defined as, "conforming to the usual beliefs of established doctrines, especially in religion: proper, correct, or conventional."

Hymers, on the board of directors of the *Journal*, maintains Hollyfield's study proves "the more a student studies at Southern, the less he believes in the Bible." Now, armed with their interpretation of the thesis, they feel they at last can document their charges of liberalism.

Hollyfield, however, feels the interpretation Powell and Hymers have attached to the thesis is "not at all what it said."

The most salient point is, my thesis was a study of the degree of orthodoxy among students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. It was not a study of the degree of orthodoxy among students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

says nothing radical if you understand it," claims Hollyfield who lives in Countryside, Ill., and teaches mathematics at Elgin Academy. "I don't see how anyone who looked at the thesis honestly could have come up with their interpretation."

After giving early permission to Powell to distribute the thesis to "a

"I have a deep conviction Southern Baptists need to know what's in this thesis."

few of his friends," Hollyfield learned Powell planned mass distribution and was using the thesis to raise money.

He telegraphed Powell during the SBC in Los Angeles and asked him to stop. Powell did not and will not stop. Hollyfield has since applied for a copyright on the thesis but it will have little legal effect because the thesis has been so long in the public domain, according to two Nashville lawyers.

"I have a deep conviction that Southern Baptists need to know what's in this thesis," said Powell. "As long as Baptist Press and most state newspaper editors do their best to keep it from the people, I will do my best to get it to them."

Powell's fund raising letter declared a financial emergency, saying the *Journal* was overdrawn at the bank and about to lose its computer.

So in exchange for \$10, Powell promised a copy of the 159-page thesis. He had received 201 orders as of July 21, 190 of them with money enclosed, although he would not say how much money.

Hymers, executive director of the George W. Truett Society for Evangelization Inc., said he was raising money to get the *Southern Baptist Journal* into every SBC church in the months leading up to the 1981 SBC meeting in New Orleans. He was asking \$50 for a free thesis and had received one order. He said later he would send free copies to anyone who asked.

Since the June convention, Hymers said the *Journal* has raised \$10,000 through calls and letters to friends, excluding the thesis offer, and is well

out of debt. "They're in fine shape down there now and I'm glad for that," Powell, however, says he is still \$4,200 in the red, and it is "absolutely not true" all his bills are paid.

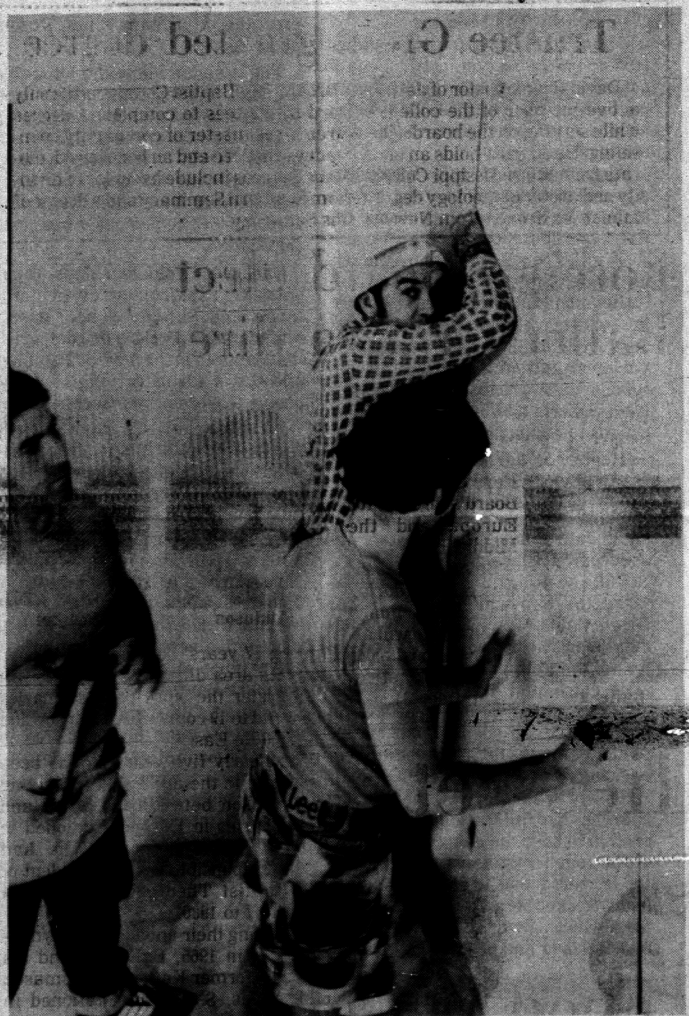
The thesis statistics that most enraged Hymers and Powell were quoted first in Harold Lindsell's book, *The Bible in the Balance*, published in 1979. Those are the results from the 19 Ph.D.-Th.M. students interviewed. Just 63 percent of the 19 checked the most orthodox possibility. "I know God really exists and I have no doubts about it."

Other answers to the question, "Which of the following statements comes closest to expressing what you believe about God," were: While I have doubts, I feel that I do believe in God, 26 percent; I find myself believing in God some of the time, but not at other times, five percent; what I believe about God is _____, five percent.

No one checked either of two blanks that indicated they did not believe in God. But Powell, Hymers and Lindsell claim the study proves only 63 percent of the students at Southern believe in God.

Help begets help for builders

Photos by Tim Nicholas



Andy Mendez (left) and Frank DeAngelo (with hat) both of Matawan, team up with Wayne Truitt of Columbus to install sheetrock in the new Columbus facility.



Bert Williams and Billy Rollins (with saw) build risers for the choir rehearsal room in the new music-educational building. Rollins, a carpenter, was project coordinator in Matawan, N.J. two years ago when the Columbus church helped build a building for Calvary Baptist Church in Matawan.

Major relief allocations set aside for Brazil, Haiti

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board released more than \$472,000 in general relief and hunger funds in May and June, with almost half of it divided between Brazil and Haiti.

Much of the rest went to relief projects in 10 different nations around the world.

Of the more than \$120,000 allocated to Brazil, \$42,000 is to be used for a maternity and infant nutritional aid project in Belo Jardim. The Baptist church there plans to provide adequate food and medical care for 75 needy expectant mothers, beginning in early pregnancy and continuing through the baby's first year. It also will hold a weekly mother's club to train the mothers in nutrition, health and infant care.

State medical authorities attribute the area's high infant mortality rate to inadequate food and medical care for expectant mothers and their babies.

Another \$36,000 will finance a project of the Brazilian National Mission Board in drought-stricken Itaporanga. The Brazilian home missionary in the city saw 52 children die of hunger during her evangelistic visits in a recently 30-day period. She has projected a three-step program, which will begin by providing 100 children with milk,

starches, medicines and some clothing and school materials.

The Boas Novas Baptist Church in Rio de Janeiro will use a \$19,200 allocation to help set up a vocational and nutritional training program in the community. Located between two slums and near one of the city's largest universities and a children's hospital, the church plans to offer classes in skills such as typing, hairdressing and pattern-making, as well as other social ministries.

The \$120,345 allocated to Haiti will be used for well-drilling and for a warehouse and staging area for well-drilling and nutritional projects. Missionary Jack Hancox notes that even problems such as poor health and unemployment are related to the shortage of good water. A recent government study, he says, reported that if all drinking water projects already underway are completed by 1990, there will still be 3.5 million people without good drinking water.

A \$88,571 appropriation for Sudan also attacks a similar problem. There the government has named water development a top priority. Two South-

ern Baptist missionary couples working among the Murle people of southern Sudan propose building two pilot water catchments (rainwater storage ponds) in their area. If those two are successful, they want to build 15 more catchments within five years after completion of the pilot.

Like some of the Brazil allocations, \$20,000 going to Jamaica will help underwrite a project of local Baptists. The Bethel Baptist Church, Kingston, has developed a model skill-training course for unemployed women. Foreign Mission Board funds will underwrite its first phase, which will train about 60 women as seamstresses, a skill in great demand on the island.

Another \$20,000 was released to repair the Paraguayan Baptist Theological Institute in Asuncion. Two classrooms and an entrance hall collapsed in May when a ditch, dug by the public power company, apparently caused the building's foundation to cave in.

Other smaller allocations went for projects such as disaster preparedness in Chile and repair of a seminary water system damaged by flooding and a landslide in Venezuela.

Youths work to prevent repeat of Miami riot

By Adon Taft

MIAMI (BP)—Some 30 teenagers and adolescents were cleaning up trash along 79th Terrace as part of a project started by the 79th Street Baptist Church.

Another 20 young people, ranging in age from 12 to 25 years, were in one-on-one reading classes at the Good News-Little River Baptist Center.

Six men were working at the Miami docks after having been placed in permanent jobs through the work referral service of that center.

At least 40 other kids—half of them girls and half boys—were playing in a softball league at Morningside Park set up by five participating churches in the Liberty City Summer Project of the Miami Baptist Association.

More than 100 persons had picked up free clothing at the distribution center at the Little River site.

Nearly half of the 25 elementary and junior high school-age children in the Vacation Bible School program at the Brownsville Mission had made professions of faith in Christ.

All of these were activities in the project described by its leaders as a small but effective beginning.

"It's working and we're happy with what's happening," said Morris Elliott, director of Christian social ministries for the Miami Baptist Association. He organized the summer project aimed at helping to avoid a repeat of last summer's Liberty City rioting.

have liked, said William Campbell, director of cooperative missions for the association and in charge of the actual operation of the project. But he is so encouraged by what is happening that he hopes to develop the project into a permanent, year-round program.

"We have had to sort of feel our way through on this thing," Campbell said, "but we can explode the Gospel through the neighborhoods if we get the personnel and the money."

The project has received \$17,000 from the Florida Baptist Convention and \$18,000 from the Miami Baptist Association.

Nearly 300 persons—most of them never before related to the church and a great many of them adolescents and young teenagers off the streets—have been involved in the program so far, according to reports from site leaders John Lavind and Don Wheeler.

In all, there are 13 different kinds of programs—ranging from training people to teach literacy classes, to working with Metro police, to day care for up to 62 preschoolers, to swimming lessons, to serious Bible study—being offered in the project, said Campbell.

The Baptist project is the most ambitious of several church programs—principally those of the Catholic, Episcopal and Methodist churches—to involve Liberty City area young people in wholesome growth activities and to aid youths and adults to get jobs.

(Taft is religion editor for the *Miami Herald*.)

Education ministers will meet in Jackson

A "Minister of Education Update" conference is set for Sept. 8 at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

Ministers of education are invited to hear about goals for Sunday School increases set by the Sunday School Board, projects from the Woman's Missionary Union, and church study course and a computerized record system.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m., includes complimentary lunch, and adjourns at 3 p.m.

For a reservation, write Leon Emery, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

Library workers to hold annual meet

Mississippi Church Media Library Association is planning its 1981 Media Library Workshop. The workshop will be held at the First Baptist Church, Jackson, Oct. 23-24.

Among those on program at the workshop will be Glynn Hill, John Hack, and James Rose of the Church Media Library Department in Nashville. Chester Swor will be the Friday evening banquet speaker.

The Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department, Bryant Cummings, director, sponsors this work. Mose Dangerfield is the media library consultant.

Food Poisoning

(Continued from page 1)

to Ridgecrest, McAnear said they were transported by a conference center bus, a bus provided by First Baptist Church, Black Mountain, N.C., and vehicles made available by guests.

"This was an all night process," said McAnear.

Billy Peacock named to head FMB's . . .

(Continued from page 1)

churches—church to church and individual to individual. They are not threatened by this, they learn a great deal of methods and it's a mutual learning. Our people that go learn from them," Hasty said.

Peacock said his decision to leave Korea at a time when people are so receptive to the gospel and when general evangelists are needed so greatly was harder than his decision to leave the pastorate of Lowrey Memorial Baptist Church, Blue Mountain, Miss., to go as a missionary to Korea.

A native of Baton Rouge, La., Peacock is a graduate of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, and of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to the former Teresa Mazzara of New Orleans, and they have four children. Before going to Blue Mountain, he was pastor of Ridgecrest (La.) Baptist Church and music or music and education director for churches in Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Zachary, La.

Jackson will begin his duties in Europe and the Middle East Feb. 1,

after World Evangelism Foundation, which he founded in 1968, ceases operation. He will spend a year in each of the board's major geographical areas: Europe and the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Latin America, working with the regional consultants on evangelism and church growth to set up partnership evangelism programs. Jackson became involved in partnership evangelism while a Southern Baptist missionary in Japan. He resigned in 1969 to devote full time to the effort. Since it was organized, World Evangelism Foundation has held 60 crusades in 30 countries, using 6,000 volunteers and reporting 160,000 professions of faith. It also has sponsored reciprocal campaigns which brought teams from six foreign countries to the United States.

Jackson, a Texan, is married to the former Doris Shirley of Anson, Texas, and they have five grown children. One daughter, Shirley Karr and her husband, Bill, were appointed in 1980 as missionaries to Japan, where the Jacksons spent 17 years as missionaries.



Molly Jones of First Church, Columbus takes a look at the handiwork of a girl at a Backyard Bible Club about a mile from the church. The BYBC was one of 41 the church held across the city with over 400 children enrolled.



This is a view of the outside of the new building put up debt-free by the members of First Church, Columbus, and volunteers from Matawan, N.J.

Appointment service largest on record

By Erich Bridges
RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Eighty-four men and women were named missionaries July 21 in the largest appointment service of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's 136-year history.

The group, from 34 states, far surpassed the previous record of 56, set in April 1947 when a war-ravaged world was begging for missionaries.

They brought with them caravans of relatives and friends who filled the new sanctuary of Derbyshire Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., and spilled into the aisles on folding chairs.

They were pastors, church musicians, business managers, farmers, teachers, nurses, a fertilizer salesman. They ranged in age from mid-20s to late 50s (several missionary associates have grandchildren). Typical Southern Baptists. Ordinary folks bound by a common call to leave home, family and country to spread Christ's gospel.

"I want to plant New Testament churches," explained Dwight Reagan of Texas, a pastor for 26 years, who will be an evangelist in South Africa.

Sue Kavli of North Dakota will teach computer science in a college in Thailand. "I want to gain the intellectual and professional respect of people there, and then share Christ with them," she said. "We can show them that you don't have to throw away your mind to find new life in Christ." Husband Steve will be a media specialist.

"This night is not an end or a beginning for me, but a bridge," said Nathan Corbitt of Texas. A music minister, Corbitt and his wife, Vickie, spent a month in Malawi as music volunteers. They are returning to Africa as career missionaries in Kenya.

Corbitt recalled an incident during his volunteer stint when a Malawi preacher pointed a long finger at him, and asked in a loud voice, "If the Lord calls, will you come back?"

"Tonight, I can say I'm coming back," Corbitt said.

Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks challenged the 84 to be "good soldiers" of Christ, ready for battle, focusing all energies on the evangelical task.

"You'll suffer. Count on it. Expect it. Write it into your agenda," Parks said, declaring that hardship is the lot of Christian soldiers obeying God, along with a joy "beyond what this world can offer."

Counting the naming of 82 missionary journeymen and four special project workers in July, the new appointments brought the total of new missionaries for the month to 170, another all-time high. To date, new missionaries in 1981 number 229.

Those appointed as missionaries were Rusty and Peggy Chapman Alums, both of Alabama, assigned to Panama; Jim and Stephanie Ellison Betha, Tennessee and Illinois respectively, to Lebanon; Boots and Sherry Weeks Blackwell, Louisiana, to Brazil; Nancy Carley, Illinois, to Zimbabwe; Allan and Trudy Edwards Carpenter, Kansas and Nebraska, to Venezuela; Richard and Jene Criswell Cheek, Arkansas, to Malaysia; Wes and Pan Emery Clark, Colorado and Texas, to Spain; Nathan and Vickie Crofts Corbitt, Texas and North Carolina, to Kenya; Kyle and Louis Tipton Cox, Texas and Missouri, to Chile; Phill and Lois Holderman Ellington, North Carolina and Missouri, to Brazil; Lynn Ellis, Georgia, to Nigeria; John and Debbie Watson Paris, South Carolina, to Rwanda.

Also appointed were John and Pat Nelson Gordy, Tennessee, to Ghana; Jim and Donna Nolting Haney, Missouri, to Nigeria; Ron and Lydia Barrows Hankins, Alabama and Georgia, to Japan; Homer Hawthorne, Texas, to Brazil; Ben and Linda Brown Hess, Missouri, to Kenya; Linda Hinderer, Kansas, to Taiwan; Roland and Linda Broxson Hodge, Mississippi and Texas, to Ecuador; Janie House, Tennessee, to Zambia; Steve and Sue Richmond Kavli, North Dakota and Texas, to Thailand; Crawford and Teresa Towe Keese, South Carolina, to Rwanda; Pam King, Texas, to Tanzania; Tommy and Beth Kugler Lerner, Texas, to Ecuador; Kenneth and Dian Yerger Loucks, Oklahoma, to Brazil.

Others appointed were Mike and Donna Knox McAleer, Texas, to Mexico; Don and Rose McGarrh McCain, Mississippi, to Portugal; Steve and Debbie Wall McCord, Alabama and Georgia, to Korea; Greg and Jackie Hunter Meeks, Arkansas, to Taiwan; Fred and Pat Merritt Merkert, New York, to Austria; Bob and Jean Miller Morgan, Kentucky and Ohio, to Indonesia; Larry and Kathy Lippard Phillips, South Carolina and North Carolina, to Peru; Larry and Dianne Blair Randolph, Alabama and Texas, to Rwanda; Paul and Janet Brooks Rohde, Texas and Oklahoma, to Guyana; Paul and Kathy Ricks Savage, Texas, to Tanzania; Jim and Becky Nichols Smith, Virginia and Kentucky, to Austria; Susan Stokell, Louisiana, to India; and Keith and Sue Younce Vaughan, Kentucky and Ohio, to Japan.

Those employed as missionary associates were Mason and Margaret Montgomery Bondurant of Alabama and Georgia, assigned to Venezuela; Charles and Gayla Vardeman Corley, Texas, to Zimbabwe; Jerry and Barbara Nicholson Dowdy, Texas, to Malawi; Charles and Betty Chance Egedy, New Jersey and Louisiana, to Nigeria; Dwight and Lila Langwell Reagan, Texas, to South Africa; Jim and Olive Hundley Reppeto, Missouri and Mississippi, to Mexico; Mary Wheeler, Missouri, to Taiwan; and Offie and Julia Lincoln Yost, Pennsylvania and New York, to the Philippines.

Four special project workers were also employed: Phil and Cindy Hoffner Cooke of Arizona and Colorado, assigned to Dominica; and Bob and Dot Stillman, Michigan and West Virginia, to Ghana.



Christian Action Commission plaques

Two former members of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission, both of them pastors, have severed their relationship with the commission because they changed positions. J. Clark Hensley (center), executive director of the Christian Action Commission, recently presented plaques in appreciation for their service on the commission to each of them. At left is Julius Thompson, the former pastor of Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Jackson, who is now a consultant in the Department of Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. At right is John Claypool, the former pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, who resigned to enter into a counseling internship in New Orleans.

HMB develops hunger survey to help churches find needy

GLORIETA, N. M. (BP)—There are poor and hungry people in almost every community in America, but most Southern Baptists seem unaware of how to find them or how to minister when they do, Nathan Porter says. Porter, domestic hunger consultant for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, has developed a Local Hunger Survey Guide to help churches discover the need and to devise ministries to prevent hunger and malnutrition. The survey process depends primarily on interviews with already existing

Regular Baptists add 34 churches to group

WINONA LAKE, Ind. (EP)—The 50th Annual Conference of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches convened at the Billy Sunday Tabernacle, Winona Lake, Indiana, June 22-26, 1981. Over 2,000 messengers representing the fundamentalist church groups registered for the business sessions. Attendance reached 4,500 plus in the evening sessions.

Five resolutions were acted upon by the messengers. All were passed by unanimous vote:

- 1) OUR HERITAGE AND PURPOSE—A commitment of our constituency to preserve the historical landmarks of our Association;
- 2) LIBERATION THEOLOGY—A rejection of this new term for the old social gospel promoted by liberals and modernists earlier in the 20th century;
- 3) EXPOSITION OF SCRIPTURE—An encouragement and exhortation to the faithful proclamation of God's Word and diligent study

and preparation on the part of evangelists, pastors and Bible teachers;

4) CONTEXTUALIZATION—A recognition of the need to communicate the Word of God in terms which the national on the mission field can understand. However, caution must be used to not allow this to become the standard by which divine truth is communicated; and

5) SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE—A call for a clear separation of church and state and an encouragement to our church members to maintain a watchful eye and vocal standard to defend our religious freedom.

Thirty-four churches were received into the Association at the business session. The General Association of Regular Baptist Churches now numbers 1,571 churches.

WMU camp

The Woman's Missionary Union Camp announced in last week's Baptist Record will offer sessions at Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg on Aug. 24, 7-9 p.m., and Aug. 25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., not on Aug. 26 as reported. Other camp dates and places were correct.

On the moral scene

PREGNANCY AND ALCOHOL DON'T MIX—"The government has issued its strongest warning yet on the dangers of alcohol during pregnancy, telling expectant mothers to avoid drinking entirely. A surgeon general's advisory sent to health professionals across the country said 'sizeable and significant increases in spontaneous abortions have been observed' among women who drank the equivalent of as little as four cocktails per week during pregnancy. It also said there have been reports of 'significantly reduced birth weight' among children of women who drank the equivalent of two cocktails per day during pregnancy. The notice in the July Food and Drug Administration Drug Bulletin... is also aimed at the casual drinker. 'The surgeon general advises women who are pregnant—or considering pregnancy—not to drink alcoholic beverages and to be aware of the alcoholic content of foods and drugs,' it said."—(THE TENNESSEAN, 7/9/81).

Hitchhikers get more

(Continued from page 1)
neyed to Oromaque. Villar shared the plan of salvation with about 30 members of Vicente's family and seven made decisions.

The following Sunday, a layman from Julian visited Oromaque and shared the plan of salvation with 35 persons. This time nine more accepted Christ. The 18 new Christians in the pueblo then began preparatory classes for baptism. Three have begun leadership training classes at the center for Theological Education by Extension to prepare for work in their own pueblo.

In response to a request from Vicente, laymen from Julian also visited the pueblo of San Antonio across the valley, where more of Vicente's family live. Five more persons accepted Christ.

"God is doing great things here in Peru, using the spiritual gifts of men like pastor Julio Villar and many other Peruvians," Wallace said.

Trustee Grant granted degree

David Grant, pastor of Jackson's Broadmoor Baptist Church, is the only active member of the college's board of trustees to complete a degree while serving on the board. The degree is the master of community counseling. He already holds an undergraduate degree and an honorary doctorate from Mississippi College. Other degrees include bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southern Seminary and a doctor of ministries degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Foreign Board elects Ballenger area director

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Isam E. Ballenger has been elected to succeed J. D. Hughey as the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's director for Europe and the Middle East. Ballenger, 45, was elected during the July board meeting. He will assume the post after Hughey's retirement Dec. 31, following 17 years' service in that position. As area director, Ballenger will administer the work of missionaries in the Middle East.



Atkinson Rankin

For nearly five years he has been associate to the area director, acting as a liaison between the board and missionaries in Europe. Stationed in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, he had added responsibilities as president of the Baptist Theological Seminary from 1977 to 1980.

Following their appointment as missionaries in 1965, Ballenger and his wife, the former Katherine Thomason of Laurens, S.C., were stationed in Hamm, Germany, where he was pastor of an English-language Baptist church, and in Offenbach, Germany, where he was pastor of a German-speaking church until he assumed his present position.

For three years prior to their appointment he was pastor of Carey Baptist Church, Henderson, N.C.

In other action, Jerry Rankin was elected associate to the director for South and Southeast Asia. Missionaries to Indonesia, Rankin, and his wife the former Bobby Simmons are both from Mississippi, and were appointed in 1970.

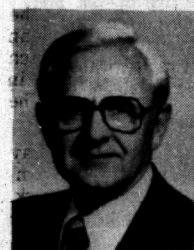
He has been a field evangelist in Jember, East Java, and has worked as a part-time advisor to India since 1980. A native of Tupelo, Rankin is a graduate of Mississippi college and Southwestern Seminary.

July 22, 1981 Lloyd H. Atkinson, was named a candidate consultant in the Personnel Selection Department of the Foreign Mission Board, effective Aug. 1.

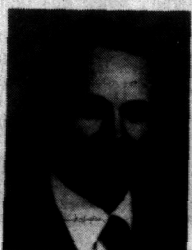
He has been administrative assistant to the board's director for Western South America since last October. In his new position he will work with persons in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and south Texas who are interested in foreign mission careers.

The story is told of three monkeys on a seesaw. Overhead was an arbor with some luscious grapes. The monkeys all rushed to the high end of the board to reach the grapes—whereupon the seesaw tilted down again. Then they all rushed back to the other end with equally poor results. After a while, one monkey paused to do a bit of thinking—why couldn't he sit on one end of the seesaw and wait for the other two to raise him? Sure enough—he reached the grapes by doing the opposite of what the crowd was doing!—United Business Service.

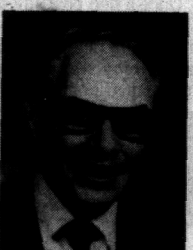
Bold missions rallies set



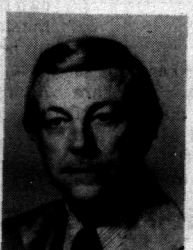
Smith



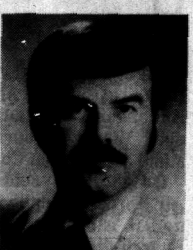
Powell



Kelly



Myers



Smith

The area-wide Bold Missions Rallies are scheduled Aug. 31, Sept. 1, and Sept. 8 in three North Mississippi cities.

The rallies are designed for pastors, deacons and key church leaders including finance committee and budget planning members.

They will offer information for involvement in Southern Baptist mission programs. There will be a mission

challenge, budget information, and a Cooperative Program emphasis.

Rally leaders include Lewis Myers of the Foreign Mission Board; Earl Kelly, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; James Smith, director secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; James Smith, director of the Brotherhood Commission; and James Powell, director of Cooperative Pro-

Commission.

Graham Smith, minister of education at Morrison Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, will be guest soloist.

The first rally will take place Aug. 31 at First Baptist Church, Hernando. The second on Sept. 1 at First Baptist Church, Grenada. And the third on Sept. 8 at First Baptist Church, Greenville. Each rally begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tanzanian Bega Kwa Bega team sees church start in Ifakara

By Evelyn Knapp
KYELA, Tanzania—The worship service and baptism at Ifakara seemed just like many others in Tanzania, with one big difference. Everyone was a guest. There were no church members.

The Christians who had worked, visited the people and planned the service were from Kyela, another district, far away. The 23 people to be baptized were starting a new Baptist church and would be the very first members.

This scene is being repeated all over Tanzania as Bega Kwa Bega (Shoulder to Shoulder), the Tanzanian Baptist bold mission thrust project, grows. Before the program is over, Baptists hope to have at least one church in every town of the country.

Teams of four to 10 pastors are assigned a town in an adjacent area of the country. The first impact team goes in with several pastors to visit and work for 10 days. Their goal is to hold the first baptismal service before they return home.

Then the follow-up team takes over, with one pastor coming every weekend

for a month, then one weekend each month for six months. After the first seven months, the church should be able to stand alone with only occasional visits.

Ifakara means poor or poverty in Swahili and to many its name is descriptive of the area. The route to Ifakara is a jolting four-hour drive over washboard roads, and innumerable rivers—with and without bridges. The vast Selous Game Reserve borders it on the east. The Kilombero River, a mile wide at flood stage, stops all traffic to the south and the Njombe Mountains rise up to the west.

Although the vast valley is lush and green, food is scarce and expensive. Lions and baboons limit the people's agricultural attempts. Eight people have been killed by lions in the last six months while working in the fields. Much of what people manage to produce, the monkeys and baboons steal before it can be harvested.

Because of its isolation and vastness, the great Kilombero and Ulanga valleys are ripe for superstition and witchcraft. Marijuana, called "bongi"

by the populace, is grown by many and openly used by the townspeople. Newcomers are viewed with suspicion until they become known.

When the impact team of six pastors and two youth musicians arrived, the first problem was finding a place to stay and food. They tried three guest houses before finding one acceptable to the Christian group. The main meal of rice and gravy cost \$2 and left team members hungry long before the next meal.

But the Holy Spirit had opened the way. When they met a trader from Kyela in the market, everyone was overjoyed. Here was someone "from home." As they went from shop to shop, house to house, one person after another accepted Christ and asked to be baptized.

The last service on Saturday was a victory for the hungry, foot-sore little band. After 10 days they left Ifakara, singing and praising the Lord for his love and goodness.

(Evelyn Knapp is Southern Baptist missionary press representative for Tanzania.)

Men's rally tickets ready

The Baptist Men's Rally banquet tickets are on sale at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

The banquet begins the rally at 5:30 p.m., Aug. 21, at the Mississippi College Coliseum in Clinton. It is followed by a conference on missions at 7 p.m.

Banquet tickets cost \$6 per person and may be obtained by writing: Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or writing 968-3936.

William E. Thorn, humorist, will entertain at the banquet. Lambert Mims, mayor of Mobile, Ala., will speak at the conference. There is no cost for the conference portion of the rally.

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BR2

Swiss businessman's expertise helps put seminary in the black

By Irma Duke

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—When Gabriel Marinello turned 50, he took stock of his life and removed himself from the routine management of his business in order to do more important things.

Not that the Swiss businessman's companies weren't important. It was his financial success there that put him in a position to make the change.

Because he has been successful in his fine-foods business in Zurich, Switzerland, he feels responsible to do what he can for the cause of Christ.

"With what the Lord gives you, he

also gives you responsibility," he said while at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's home office in Richmond, Va., recently.

At the same time he was making this decision in 1978, Baptist Theological Seminary, eight miles away, was in financial straits and needed a businessman's expertise. Marinello, a long-time member of Zurich Baptist Church, was asked to become chairman of the institution's administrative committee.

In addition to helping the seminary at Ruschlikon, he has been a consultant to the mayor's council for the city

of Zurich, of which Ruschlikon is a suburb, and also is serving on the Baptist World Alliance's commission on lay development.

With Marinello's help and the stabilizing of the American dollar on the overseas money market, the international seminary is now operating in the black. European Baptists also are footing a larger part of the financial obligations and the Foreign Mission Board continues to contribute about \$300,000 annually. Part of the financial problems stem from the inability of many of the students, especially those from eastern and southern Europe, to

pay their way.

Although Marinello had lived near the seminary most of his life, he thought it was an American institution. Now he knows it is truly international.

"You see the results of Ruschlikon throughout Europe," he said. "All the leadership of Baptists in Europe have connections there, one way or the other." The seminary was opened under Foreign Mission Board sponsorship in 1949.

Because Baptists in Europe are a minority and because Switzerland is a neutral country, Ruschlikon is

strategic to Baptist work there, he added. Students come from throughout eastern and western Europe. Enrollment averages 50 students per semester from 15 to 20 different countries with 80 expected to attend this fall. In addition, special seminars draw pastors and other Baptists from throughout the continent for renewal and fellowship.

Marinello said some people don't understand the change in him in recent years. "When I was a young man, I was ambitious and I was successful and I am still the same man but I have different interests."

"What would it be worth to gain the whole world," he said, alluding to Matthew 16:26 in the Bible.

"It's very handy being rich but whatever you have is entrusted from God and you have to decide if you own or are being owned," he added.

"We businessmen tend to get lost in our work, in our business," Marinello confessed. "We feel important in what we are doing and having, instead of what we are."

But businessmen are ministers, too, he is quick to say. "To be a Christian means to be, not to make."

BSU summer missionaries reach 5th of 10 weeks

By Nay Reed, Department of Student Work

Baptist Student Union Summer Missionaries have reached the halfway point of their 10 week term of service. These and other Mississippi students have given over \$52,400 toward summer missions this past school year. This is the largest amount ever given by students for summer missions. Continue to pray for these students during the remaining few weeks.

Summer missions is a learning as well as a growing experience for college students. Some have shared the following lessons:

TERRY ROWE (Zimbabwe)

Florence (Mrs. John Griggs) is a great help at teaching me the language and translating what I say to patients. I have learned how to say "How are you feeling today?" One day I asked a patient, she answered, and there was no one around to tell me what she said. I replied "Shaka Naki" (Very well). I hope she didn't say she felt like the end was near. The other day I sang "Jesus Loves Me" in Shona to a little boy who happens to be one of my favorites. Later in the day as I was making rounds, I heard him singing it to other patients in his room. It did my heart good.

JANE ROBERTSON (Japan)

I must regretfully inform you that Pastor Matsufuji passed away June 23. The Pastor had published parts of his diary and it has continued his ministry even after his death. I was asked to type his final chapter. As I read the notes of this dying man, I realized they were not written by one crushed by death thoughts but written by one inspired of God, full of peace, joy, and vision. His only prayer was that God allow him to finish his tasks and he would be grateful. Many times I fought the tears as I read and typed. Even though Pastor Matsufuji is gone, his message will continue to reach and bless others just as it did me. His message is clear that death is not the end but merely a step toward the beginning of true life.

RICKY KELLY (Malaysia)

The Lord has blessed us so far during our stay here in Kuala Lumpur. We have enjoyed sharing with the people here. It has been a blessing to be able to share and minister to the young adults in the churches. Because of the newness of the work here, they are the ones who make up the majority of the churches and have most of the responsibilities. Please pray for the churches here in E. Malaysia. Most of them are very young and many of them are experiencing little growth or losing the leaders to the bigger cities.

ROBIN JUMPER (West Germany)

My most meaningful experience so far has been preaching my first sermon on foreign soil. I have preached twice and have others lined up. The summer has been a great experience so far. I feel that our ministry is being used by the Lord and that the Lord is really working in my own life. A highlight has been the week we spent in Interlaken, Switzerland at the European Baptist Convention. We helped with the recreation for the children and served as youth counselors. Adrian Rogers was the featured speaker for the convention. The Lord used the week to show me many things.

NANCY HOPPS (Portland, Oregon)

Being a summer missionary has definitely been a totally meaningful experience for me. It is difficult for me to think of only one experience that has meant more than any other. Having the opportunity over and over to share my faith in song, in work, or even in telling a simple Bible story has given me the kind of deep joy within that I don't feel I've ever experienced so fully before. Seeing God supply our physical and social needs has blessed me—two free hair cuts, someone buying my partner and me a jacket, our hosts taking us to see such sights as Mt. Rainier, and a new friend who's full of encouragement and sincere prayers for you and your work. God is truly the source of every possible need and I praise Him for the privilege of serving Him this summer. My life will never be the same.

LEON WILLIAMS (Nome, Alaska)

It had been a long time since I had been to Alaska, and we had been having a good time in the evening, preaching at night and studying in the morning, along with some construction work. We had not had a shower for three days and finally we went to a place where they had water. After my shower, I prayed and I could understand so plainly that God was drawing me closer to Him. I realized that even though we had worked hard, we could never repay Jesus for what He has done for us.



J. L. Boyd's family gives plaque

The family of the late Jesse Laney Boyd, Sr., has presented a special plaque in his memory for location in the Baptist Historical Commission suite of the Mississippi College library. Participating in the ceremonies were, from the left, Alice Katherine Boyd, Alpine, Texas; J. L. Boyd, III, Ft. Worth, Texas; Naomi Boyd, Ft. Worth, Texas; and Mrs. Alice Cox, librarian of the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission. Boyd's service to Mississippi Baptists spanned some 40 years—from 1927 until his death in 1967. He first served as secretary of the Convention-appointed committee for the Preservation of Baptist Historical Data and Curator of the collection, and after his retirement in 1947, as Executive Secretary of the Baptist Historical Commission. He served in the latter position until his death.

Foreign Board boosts its force to 3,093

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board voted in July to transfer missionaries to Brunei and approved a record 84 new missionaries and four special project medical workers to boost its missionary force to 3,093.

The actions came in a three-day meeting in which four other staff appointments were announced, the board's partnership evangelism program moved briskly ahead, and President R. Keith Parks urged Southern Baptist support of legislation preserving the present rate of postal subsidy for second-class, nonprofit mailers.

Southern Baptist work in Brunei, the 95th country or territory where missionaries are assigned, will begin officially Aug. 15 as missionaries Bob and Dorothy Evans transfer to that country from Singapore. Located on the northern part of the island of Borneo, Brunei is surrounded on three sides by East Malaysia.

Christian work began in the country in the 1950s, and in May 1977 Evans began spending 10 days a month there, assisting two established churches. The Georgia missionary couple will be devoting full time to church and Theological Education by Extension (TEE) on Brunei.

Appointment of the record group of missionaries in July brought the

month's total to 170, also a new high for one month, and the year's total to date to 229. Eighty-two missionaries, 39 men and 43 women, were transferred earlier in July at Ridgecrest, N. C., for two year's service overseas, are included.

In addition to personnel changes reported in separate stories, Jerry Jones, former missionary journeyman to Austria and staff assistance in the board's missionary personnel work from 1972-74, will become college coordinator in the ministries and deputation department. He succeeds Marjorie Basden in this assignment working with college students considering journeyman or career mission service. In March, Basden assumed management of World Mission Conference coordinator for the board.

The board also approved new guidelines to better define the missionary associate role and allow them to become career missionaries after they complete 10 years' service if they meet certain requirements. Associates are employed for four-year terms, but a number have served until retirement.

The changes also added one year to the age range of persons eligible for the associate program, now open to those 35 to 60. Formerly, 59 was the maximum age at which a person could enter the program.

Needed: students for World's Fair

ATLANTA—College students with music and drama skills are needed to audition for a Southern Baptist group which will perform at the 1982 World's Fair, said Bill Lee, assistant director of special mission ministries for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The fair, scheduled for May through October, 1982, is expected to attract more than 11 million people.

Eighteen student performers will be assigned as semester student missionaries to serve April 15 - Oct. 31.

"The group will present a musical/drama written especially for the World's Fair," Lee said. "Other talents, such as puppetry and clowning, will be helpful. We want to select the most talented, committed and attractive group of students that we as Baptists have to offer."

Southern Baptists plan to sponsor a pavilion located in the middle of the park that will be the base for ministry and witness, he said. The focal point of the pavilion will be a small theatre. Students will perform in the pavilion and may also have opportunities to perform in other areas of the park.

Theme of the Baptist pavilion, "The Word is... Energy," will be interpreted through displays, a multimedia presentation and the special musical. The world's fair theme is "Energy Turns the World."

Interested students may complete a regular student missions application and indicate World's Fair team applications would be in Lee's office at least seven days prior to audition time.

Auditions will be held in four locations: Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Glorieta, N.M., Aug. 17 and 18; Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N.C., Aug. 24 and 25; First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, Sept. 11 and 12; and Central Baptist

Church, Knoxville, Tenn., Oct. 16 and 17.

Students will be notified of audition times, Lee said. They should indicate on their application which audition they will attend. Students who cannot serve the entire six and a half months should not apply, he said.

For more information contact Lee at 1350 Spring St. N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, or phone him at (404) 873-4041.

Southside takes VBS volunteers to Mexico

Southside Baptist Church, Greenville, took 18 people—16 adults and two youths—to Matamoros, Mexico, July 3-11, for a week-long Vacation Bible School and work project.

The Vacation Bible School was the first ever held in the Prince of Peace Baptist Missions of the Technologico area of Matamoros. Southside Pastor John Rudd who was principal for the VBS, reported top attendance of 202, with 43 professions of faith.

The men of Southside, plus Peter Haik, pastor of Arcola Baptist Church, did repair and finishing work on the native pastor's home in Matamoros. Rudd, a former Texas pastor, had been participating several years in the project which was coordinated through First Baptist Church, Brownsville, Tex. He had been going down with groups about seven years.

He took 11 Southside volunteers last year to work on the church building which includes the pastor's home upstairs. Work still needs to be done on the plumbing and pumping system. "I think most that went this year will probably go back," said Rudd.

Their first day in Mexico there was a rain of seven inches. All week, VBS attendees had to wade through water knee-deep.

"Rudd said the project—which received \$1,300 budgeted through the church, gave his people a "tremendous feeling of unity." He added "I think it impressed on our people the need for involvement in missions."

Years and years of happiness only makes us realize how lucky we are to have friends that have shared and made that happiness a reality.—Robert E. Frederick.

Homecoming

Magees Creek Church (Walhall): homecoming August 9; former Ben Purvis, pastor FBC, Kentwood, La. speaker; dinner on the grounds followed by afternoon singing. James Barrentine, pastor.

In El Salvador

Bibles give testimony, save children's lives

NEW YORK (EP)—(This story re-counted to American Bible Society officials).

The Place: San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador.

The People: Raul Duron, Executive Secretary, El Salvador Bible Society, and his four children.

Recently, in the capital city of my country, I was leaving the office to pick up my four children near a church. About six blocks from the church, in a nearby neighborhood, there had been an attack on the municipal building. We were not aware of this attack.

Retired pastor dies

Jasper Luther Courson, 83, retired Baptist minister, died Wednesday, July 22.

Funeral services were held Thursday, July 23.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Mattie Bailey Courson; four daughters, Mrs. Libby Parrish, Mrs. Voncie Sanders, both of Memphis, Mrs. Sue Crowley of Maben, Mrs. Ann Thompson of Merritt Island, Fla.; three sisters.

Concert to be at Roosevelt Park

The Scarborough Ritchie Band from Jackson and the New Covenant Players of Meridian will be featured in a concert at Roosevelt State Park, Morton, Friday, Aug. 7, at 7 p.m.

The concert will be in the park's Affredo Lodge. It is being sponsored by park personnel; there will be no admission fee.

The streets were without lights and in one corner there were national guard troops. Since it was dark, I did not notice the halt signal made to us by one of the guards. When we passed, we heard a shot, and I accelerated the car. Then another shot rang out, closer to our car. Suddenly we were surrounded by soldiers.

Immediately, a sergeant ordered us all up against the wall. We heard the sergeant order, "aim and fire."

I told my children to get out of the car and put their hands against the car while the soldiers searched them. When the sergeant heard the word "children" he calmed down and started searching us. I told him, "look inside the car, also."

A civilian proceeded to do so. When he got to the back seat, he found the Bibles my children had been carrying and immediately told the sergeant, "All is well; let them go. They are people of peace."

The sergeant then ordered his troops not to fire and said we could drive away slowly and carefully. I had to drive two blocks, the slowest ever driven in my life, amidst rifles which were pointing at us.

The Bibles of my children, the Word of God, when found gave a testimony for us and saved our lives.

When tempers flare don't talk

Men with clenched fists can't shake hands.

The person who serves—deserves. If you must use a hammer, build something.

Catholic Press publishes book on Southern Baptists

ATLANTA (BP)—A Southern Baptist interfaith witness expert and a Roman Catholic publisher have teamed up to break a long-standing barrier between the largest Christian denominations in the United States.

Paulist Press, a Catholic publishing house, has printed *Introducing Southern Baptists: Their Faith and Their Life* by C. Brownlow Hastings, assistant director of interfaith witness for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Hastings divided his book into three parts. The first explains the Southern Baptist view of the relationship be-

tween the individual and God. Next, he examines the fellowship of believers and their way of life in the local church. The third part traces Southern Baptist history and looks at the challenge of a growing social awareness within the denomination.

The book also includes a glossary of Southern Baptist terms and a series of most-asked questions about the denomination.

Paulist Press's Betty Ralph added the book should "help members of both denominations approach each other with a deeper understanding of what Baptists believe and how they live."

Tanner will deliver MC commencement address

CLINTON—William G. Tanner, president of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, will deliver the summer commencement address at Missis-

issippi College scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 8, at 2 p.m. in the A. E. Wood Coliseum on campus. He is a former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Gulfport.

Devotional—You cannot miss, if you follow directions

By Kenneth Walters, pastor Fellowship Baptist Church, Meridian, Matthew 7:13-14

One year ago this week, the Fellowship Baptist Church was in revival and a neighboring pastor, who was new in this area, planned to attend one of the revival services. He did not know the location of the church, so he asked for directions from a mutual friend. The friend called me to inform me that we were to have a visitor, that the pastor was on his way with a map and should arrive just in time for the service to begin.

The time for the service came, and the neighboring pastor had not arrived. Throughout the revival service, the evangelist watched anxiously to see the friend arrive. When the service closed, he still had not arrived.

A telephone call the next morning explained what had happened. He had made a wrong turn (because of road construction) and being unfamiliar with the area, went to Philadelphia which is 35 miles away. The friend had told him, "You can not miss if you follow these directions."

The Bible contains the directions to enter into eternal life. "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it (Matt. 7:13-14 KJV). Satan may seek to cause us to detour and desires that we miss the directions. If we do not know our destination, a detour can cause us to become confused and lose our sense of direction.

Our road to eternity is mapped out plain; you cannot miss, if you follow the directions. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6 KJV).

Are YOU following his directions?

Revival Dates

New Haven (Choctaw): Aug. 2-7; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Joe Anderson, pastor of McAdams Church (Attala), evangelist; Ira Pollard, French Camp, music director; Jesse McMillan, pastor.

Hopewell, McCool (Choctaw): Aug. 3-7; at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Bill Fox, pastor of Cash Church, Scott County, evangelist; Roger Griffith, pastor.

Strong Hope (Copiah): Aug. 5-9; Russell McIntire, pastor, Oak Park Church, New Orleans, La., and former pastor at First, Clinton, Miss., evangelist; weekday services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday to be homecoming day with dinner on the grounds, Sunday School at 10, and morning worship at 11; Jerry Kennedy, pastor; Mrs. Robert Reid, music director.

Calvary Church, Columbus: Aug. 2-7; James Parker of First Church, Okolona, evangelist; J. T. Hannaford of First Church, Moss Point, minister of music. Services scheduled for 12 noon and 7 p.m.; Roy D. Hawkins, pastor.

Siloam Church (Clay): Aug. 9-14; Carey Sansing, evangelist; Rell and Darlene Webber, music evangelists; Walter H. Frederick, pastor.

Raymond Road Church, Jackson: Aug. 2-7; Gary Bowlin, evangelist; Clayton Pope, music director; Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

Bunker Hill, Columbia: Aug. 2-7; services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sam Creel, preaching; Paul Ball, leading the music; David J. Perry, pastor.

Newhebron Church: August 2-7; Hueston Adkins, First Church, Mendenhall, evangelist; Bernie Parker, First Church, Columbia, music evangelist; Earl Clark, pastor; services at 7 each evening; Sunday regular times plus dinner at the church.

Forest Church: youth revival; July 30-Aug. 1; Bill and Marian Lee, leading (the Lees combine their talents in teaching, preaching, singing, and drama); Clyde Little, pastor.

Liberty Hill (Panola): Aug. 9-14; regular times on Sunday; week day services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Floyd Higginbotham, pastor of Calvary, Batesville, evangelist; Homer Lee Finnie, in charge of the music; James Lee Bailey, pastor.

Pleasant Hill Church, Carthage (Leake): Aug. 3-7; at 7:30 p.m.; Don Savell of Forest, evangelist; Jimmy Dale McDill, pastor.

Plave Church (P...): 2-7; Sunday services to begin with Bible School at 10 a.m., worship at 11, and dinner served at the church followed by an afternoon of worship in sermon and songs (a note burning service will also be included in Sunday's services); week day services at 7:30 p.m.; Troy A. Sumrall, pastor, evangelist; music in charge of The Jack Elmore Family.

Concord (Yazoo): Aug. 2-7; Rick Spencer, pastor; Daniel Holcomb, associate professor of church history, New Orleans Seminary, evangelist; Petie Neely, minister of music; homecoming Aug. 2.

Elmo Church (Union-Adams): Aug. 2-7; John Beckett, pastor of Bridge City Church, Bridge City, La., revival preacher; Kenneth L. Anderson, pastor.

West Jackson Church, Jackson: Aug. 2-5; Sunday 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. at 7:30 p.m.; Charles Dampier, pastor of First Church, Fairfield, Ill., evangelist; John Hanberry, music director; Malcolm Massey, pastor.

Calvary Church, Bogue Chitto: Aug. 2-7; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., with dinner on the grounds; during week at 7:30 p.m.; Teddy Traylor, Henrietta, Tex., evangelist; Don Brown, Hazlehurst, music director; Mrs. W. McGuffee, pianist.

Mars Hill (Amite): Aug. 2-6; Ron Pate, pastor in Marrero, La., evangelist; Victor L. Walsh, assistant minister of music at First Church, McComb, leading the music; Greg Long, pastor; Sunday morning service at 11 followed by dinner on the grounds and an afternoon service; during week at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Carson Ridge (Attala): Aug. 9-14; Billy Guest, pastor of Corinth Church, Simpson County, evangelist; Andy Doty, music director; Rose Ann Doty, pianist; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; during week at 10:45 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Donald Riley, pastor.

Old Silver Creek, (Lawrence): July 31-Aug. 2; services Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday services at 11 a.m. followed by lunch at church and another services at 1:00 p.m.; L. C. Anthony, pastor of Arm Baptist Church, Lawrence County, guest speaker; Doug Warren, pastor of Old Silver Creek, leading music.

County Line Church, Crystal Springs: Aug. 3-9; services at 7:30 p.m.; messages brought by the new pastor, Bob Mack; music under direction of Mrs. Carol Welch, the church's new music and youth leader.

Shady Grove Church (Copiah): Aug. 2-5; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. at 6 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; DeWayne Tullios, Bethel pastor, evangelist; Johnny Johns, leading the singing; Danny Watkins, pastor.

Rocky Point (Leake): Aug. 16-21; Danny Lafferty, evangelist; David Wilkinson, pastor (changed from first Sunday in August, when it is usually held).

Swiftwater Church (Washington Assoc.): Aug. 2-7; services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri.; Sid Crawley from Memphis, evangelist; Hubert Greer from Brookhaven, music director; Walter Simmons, pastor.

Pine Grove, Magee (Simpson): Aug. 2-7; Estus Mason, retired, former pastor, First, Crystal Springs, evangelist; Don Blackwell, Mississippi highway patrolman and music director of the church, directing the music; services on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.; dinner to be served on the grounds at noon Sunday; weekday services 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. B. E. Padgett, pastor.

Mt. Horeb Church (Lauderdale): August 9-14; T. E. Williams, pastor, Center Grove, evangelist; Tommy Harrison, minister of music, First Church, Lauderdale, music evangelist; services 7:30 p.m.; Archie McIntyre, pastor.

Rock Bluff (Smith): Aug. 3-7; services at 7:30 p.m.; J. T. Pannell of Pelahatchie, evangelist; Ralph Hall of White Oak Church, song leader; Tommy Miles, pastor.

Rienzi Church, Rienzi: Aug. 9-14; Sunday services at 6:30 p.m.; weekday services at 7:30 p.m.; Kara Blackard, pastor of Beulah Church, Myrtle, evangelist; Mark Garrett, New Albany, music leader; Wiley Gann, pastor.

Gunnison Church: Aug. 2-7; at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; services to begin Sunday morning at 11; Roy Beaman, professor emeritus, New Orleans Seminary and professor at Mid-America Seminary, evangelist; John Conn, pastor.

Woodlawn, Vicksburg: Aug. 9-13; Freddie Gage, evangelist; Vance Greek, song leader; services at 7:30 p.m.; Rick Stanley, stepbrother of Elvis Presley, to give his testimony on Monday night, Aug. 10.

Utica Church: Aug. 5-9; Sam Simmons, Memphis, evangelist; Judy Walker and Mark Oleis, music; John Ed Snell, pastor.

Waveland Church, Gulf Coast: has called John Wilson as pastor. He is from Lyman and is attending New Orleans Seminary.

Cedar Grove (Marion): Aug. 2-7; at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Tom Popelka of Austin, Tex., evangelist; Charles Jones, leading the music; Charles Anglin, pastor.

First, Lambert (Quitman): Aug. 2-7; Joel Haire, pastor, First, Crystal Springs, evangelist; Richard Jenkins, minister of music at Lambert, directing the music; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Wayne Long, pastor.

Romona Church: Aug. 2-7; Sunday morning service, Aug. 2, to include special dedication of the church's new sanctuary at 11 a.m. with the pastor, Mike Pennock, preaching; dinner on the grounds Sunday followed by an afternoon service in which Dennis Herrington of Pearl, evangelist for the revival, will preach; John Peeples, Pearl, music evangelist; no Sunday night service; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

Thomastown (Leake): August 2-7; Sunday services 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; weekday services 10:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m.; David Wilkinson, pastor, Rocky Point, evangelist; Ryan Miley, summer youth worker, Rocky Point, directing music; W. A. Troutman, pastor.

First Church, Cleveland: Aug. 2-5; guest minister, James Richardson, pastor of First Church, Leland; R. L. and Beth Sigrest, sacred music artists from Yazoo City; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. services at 12:15 p.m. and 7 p.m.; (all services will be broadcast live over cablevision Channel 10 and WCLD-Radio 1490); James W. Street, pastor.

Spring Cottage (Marion): August 16-21; worship Sunday at 11 a.m., dinner at the church and afternoon service at 1:30 p.m.; during the week 7 p.m.; evangelist, B. Alfred Jones, pastor, Hurricane Creek Church, Sandy Hook; Dallas Rayborn, Hattiesburg, leading music; M. L. Graham, pastor.

Sand Ridge Church (Scott): July 26-31; evangelist, Sammy McDonald, Terry; Ray Moseley, pastor.



Belle Fountain dedicates annex

Belle Fountain Church, Ocean Springs, dedicated its educational building to Kenneth Perry (right), on homecoming day. Perry has been a member there for many years and is a former minister of music there. "The building will be called the 'Kenneth Perry Annex' for his many years of service and devotion to the church," said C. H. Stone Jr., pastor (left). Pictured with Perry and the pastor is Perry's wife, Louise.



Andre' W. Dobson has accepted the call to become pastor of Blackwater Church, Kemper Association, Route 1, Daleville. He moved to Blackwater from Wake Forest Church, Sturgis, Oktibbeha Association. He is married to the former Luanne Tension. They have a 10-month-old son, John Wesley.

First, Oxford has several new staff members. Gene Neal is the new minister of activities. Cindy Maples is the new financial secretary; Martha Thompson is the new church secretary.

Calvary, Starkville, has called Jimmy McCaleb as minister of music and youth. He goes to Calvary from 38th Avenue Church in Hattiesburg. He is married to the former Ashley White of Corinth. He was graduated from Mississippi College with a B.A. degree, Southwest with BSM and from the University of Southern Mississippi with a Master in Music Education.

First, Leakesville called Pam McDaniel as summer youth director.

Volunteers make draperies for Morrison Heights

A new activities and education building is almost complete at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, Kermit McGregor, pastor, and the congregation expects to begin use of it within the next Sunday or two. The building contains a music suite with rehearsal room and music library.

In addition, the church has had its offices remodeled and its media center enlarged. A group of women in the church volunteered to make draperies for the offices, including the pastor's office and study, the associate pastor's office, the education director's office, and the church parlor. They completed the project in two weeks' time.

Lynn (Mrs. Maurice) King, chairman of the furnishings sub-committee, of the Building Committee, coordinated the drapery making project. The nine women who assisted her were Ramona Sims, Helen Blackwell, Mrs. J. V. Carr, Mrs. Ed McDonald, Edna Little, Barbara Calhoun, Carolyn Hand, Marilyn Sauls, and Mrs. Mike McMillan.

Recreation seminars set for September

NASHVILLE—Three church recreation seminars will be offered concurrently in the church program training center at the Baptist Sunday School Board here Sept. 14-18.

A camp programming seminar, designed to assist in planning and conducting camping experiences, will be led by the Sunday School Board's church recreation department camping consultant John LaNoue.

A how-to seminar on the programming and operation of a recreation facility, led by Wendell Newman, church recreation department's facilities coordinator, will be offered to church staff members.

Using puppetry in a church, led by drama consultant, Everett Robertson, also of the church recreation department, will be offered on a beginning and advanced level.

Tuition for each seminar is \$45. To register, write the Church Program Training Church, P. O. Box 24001, Nashville, Tenn. 37203. When writing, specify seminar you wish to attend.

Findings mixed in latest survey on Moral Majority

WASHINGTON (EP)—The Moral Majority is growing in public recognition, but half the American public still has never heard of it. The other half is enormously divided over this organization that terms itself the voice of the religious right.

Of those who say they know of it, 43 percent say they disapprove of its positions on most issues, 37 percent say they approved and the rest have no opinion.

Few Americans, however, seem to want the 2-year-old group based in Lynchburg, Va., to gain in power. Again dealing with those who know of its existence, only one in five wants the Moral Majority to exert more influence over American life than it does now, and more than half say its influence should be reduced.

These are among the findings of a Washington Post-ABC News poll dealing with the Moral Majority, the group led by Jerry Falwell. The organization claims to have registered 2.5 million fundamentalist voters last year. The poll suggests that a substantial number of people who say they know of the Moral Majority and who express approval of its goals may in reality be unfamiliar with those goals.

For example, almost half those who told survey interviewers that they generally approve the positions "the Moral Majority takes on the most issues" also said they favor the Equal Rights Amendment, which the Moral Majority opposes.

Furthermore, while the Moral Majority decries homosexuality, four in 10 of those who say they approve the goals of the Moral Majority also say they believe "homosexuals and lesbians" should be allowed to teach in public schools, and that homosexual relations between consenting adults

should be legal.

Nonetheless, the poll provides evidence that the Moral Majority is growing in recognition, because a Gallup poll last December showed only 40 percent saying they knew of it.

In addition, the new survey provides a revealing glimpse of the group's staunchest supporters, and the deep-seated national concerns it has capitalized on.

Among those polled, three-fourths of the Moral Majority's strongest supporters voted for Ronald Reagan, and, like Reagan, considered themselves conservatives. They are far more religious than the rest of the country, have less formal education and tend to live in suburbs and small towns in the South, Midwest and West.

Fry of Carey twice honored

James H. Fry, a member of William Carey College's music faculty since 1976, has been twice honored this summer. He has been named acting dean of Carey's School of Music, and he has won a national composition contest.

Fry, who began his new duties in the School of Music on July 1, teaches music theory and composition. A prolific composer, he has written some 47 works—for solo instruments, small chamber ensembles, solo vocalists and choral groups.

It is a work written last December, "Quintet for Brass," that has taken top honors in the composition contest sponsored by the New Louisville Brass Quintet and the University of Louisville School of Music.

The honor carries with it a monetary award, and the work itself will be premiered in the New Louisville Brass Quintet's first concert of the 1981-82 season.

Doors open for doers.

A PG rating on a movie means propriety galore.

He stands best who kneels best.

Choice, not chance, determines destiny.

Revival Results

Cliff Temple, Natchez (Adams): July 12-17; Howard Aultman, evangelist; Marcus Marler, music director; seven for baptism, one by letter; W. G. Dowdy, pastor.

First Church, Coffeeville: William B. Webb, evangelist; Mike Parks, singer; James Fancher, pastor; six professions of faith; five additions by letter.



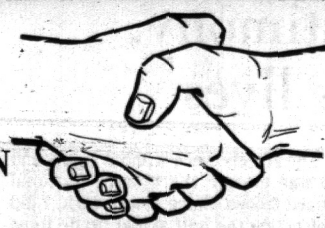
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Persecution strengthens Nigerian Baptist Church

By Veda Locke

AMURI, Nigeria (BP)—Two years after pagan worshippers stormed the Amuri (Nigeria) Baptist Church and attacked the worshipping Christians, the church is still preaching the gospel.

Masked Juju worshippers mingled with the crowd at a recent outdoor evangelistic service, but a young man beaten in the earlier attack said, "They cannot hurt us. We have the protection of God through Jesus Christ."

And each Sunday 50 to 60 people attend the church in spite of continuing harassment.

In April 1979, anti-Christian crusaders warned the four-year-old congregation to discontinue worship services or face the consequences, but Christians defied the order.

People wearing Juju masks and

armed with clubs and knives disrupted a Sunday worship service and attacked church members. They took three young church leaders to a pagan shrine, where they stripped, beat and threatened to kill them.

But police, alerted by escaped church members, arrived in time to rescue the three.

A revival of traditional African religious culture in Nigeria set the stage for the attack on this church, as well as others, missionaries to Nigeria say. A few months earlier, the town chief had warned against religious persecution, reminding his people that freedom of worship was guaranteed in the constitution.

But the pagans of Amuri complained that the Baptists were trying to change their ancient customs. One charge was that "Baptists celebrate marriage with Coke instead of palm wine."

The culmination came after Baptist

pastor Timothy Nwagwu participated in a forbidden burial. Pagans forbid burials during their festivals, creating a difficult situation for bereaved families because there are no embalming facilities in the area.

Nwagwu agreed to help a young Christian of another faith bury his father during a festival. They tried to do it quietly, but were reported, and the anti-Christians beat them severely, declaring that the Baptist church should be shut down immediately. When the church didn't comply, they attacked.

One of the young men beaten then still has pain from his injuries, but he told Southern Baptist missionary Emogene Harris, "If my persecution and suffering have helped people in my town to know Jesus, it is worth it all."

(Veda Locke is a Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria.)

Just for the Record



A youth group from Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, recently visited in the Nation's Capitol. The group spent time in Washington learning first-hand about how the federal government works. They are pictured visiting with Senator Thad Cochran (R-Miss.).

Nine couples who are members of Campers on Mission in Mississippi led services on a recent Sunday at Bethesda Church near Philadelphia.

Runnelstown, First Church, Runnelstown, Miss., will hold Vacation Bible School August 3-7 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The church bus will run for VBS; commencement service Sunday night, August 9 at 7 p.m.

Wayside Church, Seabey, recently held a recognition service for eight GAs. The theme was, "Send the Light." GAs recognized were Lisa Stroup, Tammy Stroup, Gay Pollan, Donna Stroup, Teresa Foster, Angie Foster, Honey Moorman, Pam Jones, and Mrs. Mae Little and Mrs. Charlotte Pollan are their leaders. Carl Hayes is pastor.

GA day camp

A Wayne Association GA Day Camp is scheduled for Aug. 11 at the Manor Creek Water Park, beginning at 10 a.m. Martha Ellen Marler, missionary to Guam, will present the program. Mrs. Peggy Lockhart is the association GA director.

Bunker Hill to dedicate sanctuary

Dedication services for the new building of Bunker Hill Church, Columbia, will be held Sunday, August 2, 2:30 p.m. The new facility was constructed by Carter and Mullings, Inc. of Columbia.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will be guest speaker for the special service. Music will be under direction of Paul Ball, music evangelist, Frisco City, Ala.

The building consists of a new sanctuary, complete educational space, fellowship hall, media center, church office, and pastor's study, all centrally cooled and heated.

Three committees worked together. They were: Building Committee: Donald K. Robbins, chairman; W. M. Burt, Billy Joe Cooper, David Robbins, and Frances Williamson. Building Finance: James L. McPhail, chairman; G. H. Allen, and Wilks. Planning Committee: Jiles Grice, chairman; Thomas Allen, Doris Broom, Billy Joe Cooper, Jerry Hatton, Ricky Ladner, and Frances Williamson.

Following the service everyone will be invited for refreshments and a tour of the building.

Missionary News

W. Douglas and Paula Ann Simrell, missionaries to the Ivory Coast, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: 01 BP 3722, Abidjan 01, Ivory Coast). Born in Decatur, Ala., he has also lived in Chicago, Ill.; New Orleans, La.; and Troy, Pinkard, Brantley, Parrish, Mobile and Birmingham, Ala. The former Paula Ann Gotcher, she was born in Verona, Miss., and grew up in Mobile.

Ernest and Barbara Beevers, missionaries to Indonesia since 1967, resigned from missionary service June 30. They were stationed in Jakarta, Indonesia, where he was director of Baptist student ministries. A native of Mississippi, he was born in Jackson and also lived in Union. The former Barbara Tetlow of Pennsylvania, she was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Parkland. They may be addressed at 156 Shafer Road, Corapolis, Pa. 15108.

Malcolm and Jean Nichols, missionary associates to Korea, are in the States on furlough (address: 12310 N. 27th St., Tampa, Fla. 33612). He is a native of Knoxville, Tenn. She was born in Meridian, and lived there and in York, Ala., while growing up.

Karen Schmulbach, missionary journeyman to Hong Kong/Macao, has completed her term of service and arrived in the States (address: 2625 Dunn Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38114). She was born in Clarksdale, Miss., and also lived in Memphis, Tenn. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1979, she was graduated from Memphis State.

John and Kathy Stanley, missionary journeyman to Kenya, have completed their term of service and returned to the States (address: Star Route, Braxton, Miss. 39044). He was born in Mobile, Ala. She was born in Shreveport, La. Before they were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1979, he was pastor of Ogden Baptist Church, Benton, Miss.

Kenneth L. Michel, missionary journeyman to Scotland, has completed his term of service and returned to the States (address: Box 589, Brookhaven, Miss. 39601). He was born in Fort Worth, Texas, and also lived in Georgia and Mississippi. Before he was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1979, he was graduated from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Daniel L. Johnson, missionary journeyman to Bangladesh, has completed

his term of service and returned to the States (address: Rt. 3, Box 54, Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401). He was born in Laurel. Before he was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1979, he was employed as a minister of music for Myrick Church, Jones County.

Sue Ann Holland, missionary journeyman to Yemen, has completed her term of service and returned to the States (address: 107 Harris Dr., Rt. 4, Gulfport, Miss. 39503). She was born in Dayton, Ohio. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1979, she was a nurse at Garden Park Hospital, Gulfport, Miss.

Ted Holt, missionary journeyman to Mexico, has completed his term of service and returned to the States (address: Rt. 7, Box 368, Tupelo, Miss. 38801). He was born in Memphis, Tenn., and also lived in Gilmore, Ark., and Tupelo, Miss. Before he was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1979, he was graduated from Delta State University, Cleveland, Miss.

Janie Baykin, missionary journeyman to Liberia, has completed her term of service and returned to the States (address: Rt. 1, Box 120, Mize, Miss. 39116). She is a native of Raleigh, Miss. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1979, she was employed as a teacher in Raleigh.

Charles and Elizabeth Ray, Missisippians who are missionaries to Japan, are now in the States on furlough. Their address is 5020 Doyle, Ft. Worth, Texas 76117 (tel. 817-838-0229.)

William E. and Judy Davis, missionaries to Bolivia, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Casilla 2516, Mison Bautista Surena, Santa Cruz, Bolivia). Born in Hammond, La., he grew up in Newton and Clinton, Miss.; and Red Springs and Cary, N.C. She was born in Vicksburg and lived near Eupora while growing up.

Salvation is free, but it is not cheap. Learn to say kind words — nobody resents them.

When a church stops doing, it starts dying.

Tact fails the moment it is noticed.

Show-offs often get showed-up in a show-down.

Enemies are made, not born.

When opportunities knock, open the door.

If you don't enjoy what you have, how could you be happier with more?

Robinson Street will sponsor VBS for adults

Robinson Street Church, Jackson, is sponsoring an Adult Vacation Bible School, to be held Aug. 10-14 from 7 to 9 p.m.

There will also be a children's Bible Club for ages 6 - 12. A nursery will be provided.

"Pre-register by calling 352-6242, because you haven't had so much fun since you were a kid," said Peggy Doyle, director of the VBS and wife of the pastor, James Doyle.

Homecomings

First Church, Ridgeland, will hold its first annual homecoming with dinner on the ground, on Sunday, August 2. A special program of worship will use puppets, magic, a film, and special music for children, ages 4 years through 6th grade. Bible study will begin at 9:45 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. Ed Griffin is pastor. Danny Brock is minister of music and youth.

Rock Bluff Church, Smith County, will hold homecoming day on Sunday, Aug. 2. William Caten will speak at the 10:45 a.m. service. Dinner will be served on the grounds. An afternoon singing will feature the Dixieland Quartet. There will be no Sunday night service.

42nd anniversary and homecoming will be held at Southside Church, Jackson, on August 2. The Southside Church was organized on Aug. 7, 1939. Percy Cooper was called as pastor and served until 1947. On March 16, 1947, S. W. Valentine began his ministry as pastor and served until 1974. In August, 1975, Fred D. Fowler began his pastorate of the Southside Church. Three years ago the church completed a Family Life Center and sanctuary. The church was located on South Congress Street from 1939 to October, 1962, when it relocated at 800 Raymond Road.

Highlights for the anniversary will include Cooper's bringing the message at 11 a.m. and an "Old Fashioned Dinner on the Ground." At the 5:45 p.m. Church Training hour a slide presentation will be featured. After the evening worship service there will be a churchwide fellowship with a watermelon cutting.

Prejudice is a loose idea, firmly held.

Names In The News...

Marlon Seaney is available for supply preaching, revivals, and/or pastorate. He is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary, and has been pastor of four churches in Mississippi. He can be reached at 146 Penner, Pearl, MS 39208 (telephone 939-0684).

Hubert Humphreys of Picayune and Van East of Amory have been named state co-chairmen of the Association of Baptists for Scouting. The association promotes Scouting and the God and Country Award program in Baptist churches.



Humphreys East

Lafayette, La. (BP)—Calvin Bower has been named chairman of the University of Notre Dame department of music. He has been professor of music at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, since 1969. "They said one reason they wanted him, in addition to his professional training, was because he was a Baptist pastor's son and understood church music," said his father, St. Clair Bower.

Baptist urges House to extend Voting Rights

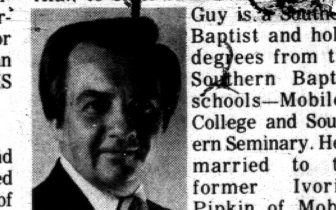
WASHINGTON (BP)—Declaring that racial discrimination has not been eradicated, a Southern Baptist executive has urged a House subcommittee to extend the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Foy Valentine, executive director of the Southern Baptist Convention's Christian Life Commission, told the Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights that the voting rights act was "a vital part" of the civil rights legislation Congress enacted in the 1960s.

With key provisions of the act scheduled to expire August 31, Valentine called for its extension, saying it had "not just worked," but had "worked amazingly well."

The crucial and most controversial provision of the act requires certain counties and states to get Justice Department approval before changing local election laws.

Donnie Guy has resigned as pastor of Presley Street Church, Atmore, Ala., to enter full-time ministry.



Guy is a Southern Baptist and holds degrees from two Southern Baptist schools—Mobile College and Southern Seminary. He is married to the former Ivorine Pipkin of Mobile and they have three sons, Mark, Michael, and Brent. The Guys will continue to live in Atmore. He may be contacted at 606 E. Oak St., Atmore, Ala. 36502 (phone 1-205-368-5679). When he was serving in Mississippi, the Wade Church under his leadership led the state in baptisms.

Millard L. Swinney, pastor, had open heart surgery on July 7 at V.A. Hospital, Memphis, his wife reports, but is now at home in Olive Branch, at 6274 Chickasaw Drive, Olive Branch, Miss. 38654, recuperating.

Four members of New Haven Sunday School, Choctaw Association, have received three-year

terms. Those receiving pins were J. C. and Tammy May, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles May, Deandra Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Jones, and R. A. Howard. This promotion emphasis was started during the pastorate of J. C. Hawthorne. Jesse McMillan is the present pastor.

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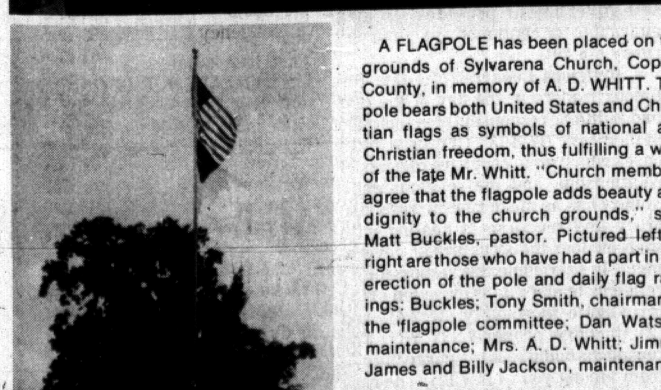
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BOYS FROM HARMONY CHURCH, Pontotoc County, collected \$100 which they sent to the Baptist Children's Village at Jackson. Left to right, front row, the boys are: Michael Joe Martin, Jeffrey Whitten, Tommy Caldwell, Harold Homan. Left to right, back row: Randy Baldwin, Rhett Baldwin, Tommy Hodge, Tim Foreman, Daniel Foreman, and Jason Harrison; J. W. Owen, Jr. is pastor.



Union youths fast to give meal money to world hunger

Youths of Union Church near Picayune fasted for 30 hours to raise nearly \$1600 to go toward combatting world hunger. This planned famine began at 3 on Friday afternoon, July 17, and ended at 9 o'clock Saturday evening.

Each youth donated \$6.00 (the approximate cost of 3 meals) and enlisted 10 sponsors to give \$6.00 each. Young people raised over \$100.00 and one young woman raised \$140.00.

Activities were planned by the youths such as flag football, a basketball tournament, table tennis, ping pong, pool, and a kangaroo court. There were also pastor-led Bible studies, hunger games, and Christian films. The participants were given 4 ounces of orange juice every 4 hours.

Thirty-three youths participated with four adults starving along with them. Dionne Williams is the minister of youth.

Bible Book Series



Old, new covenants contrasted

By Lewis Sewell, pastor
First, Oxford
Hebrews 9:1-28

A covenant is a solemn promise made binding by an oath, which may be either a verbal formula or a symbolic action. There are both secular and religious covenants. Our concern in this lesson is the covenant between God and man. The old covenant as used in Hebrews refers to the Mosaic Law.

There were several covenants in the Old Testament. Probably the original covenant was made with Abraham in response to Abraham's request for certainty of the promise Yahweh had made (Gen. 15 and Gen. 17:1-14).

The new covenant as used in Hebrews refers to God's giving his Son for the salvation of believers. The Sinai covenant of the Old Testament and the New Testament covenant in Christ's blood are one. Each created a people of God out of those who were no people, demanded the complete self-surrender to God as a joyful response to the love of God which preceded. Yet, the new covenant is superior to the old covenant because of the sufficiency of Christ's priestly work. The purpose of this lesson is to explain why the new covenant meets the human need of salvation.

I. The old covenant's limited access to God (9:1-10).

In verses 1-5 a detailed description of the component parts of the earthly tabernacle is given. "These things" (v.6) refer to all the parts of the first tabernacle as mentioned in verses 1-5. Although the arrangements of the tabernacle are briefly mentioned, it is clear from scripture that the whole structure was complete. However, the ministry was spiritually inadequate. This ministry was divided into the daily service of the priests in the holy place and the annual service of the high priest in the Holy of Holies.

The "first tabernacle" (v.6) refers to that part of the tabernacle where the priests ministered daily. The "second" (v.7) refers to the Holy of Holies where the high priest ministered once a year on the Day of Atonement.

The Day of Atonement dates back to Leviticus. Lev. 16:12-16 suggests that the high priest entered the Holy of Holies at least twice on the Day of Atonement. Once with blood for his own sin offering. Then, with blood for the sin offering of the people. The offering for the people was for "errors."

Some suggest "errors" refers to unwillful sins, or sins committed by people unknowingly. However, "ignorances" may be a better translation and is used as a general term for sins.

In verse 8 "the holiest of all" refers to God's presence. The meaning appears to be that while the tabernacle and, subsequently, the temple "was yet standing" the Holy Spirit signified that it was not permitted to enter God's presence. For the writer the old covenant was finished, the veil had been rent, the way was open to "the holiest of all" and men could draw near to God. The fact that the temple was still in use in Jerusalem made no difference, for it had been rejected by God, and thus possessed no authoritative standing.

II. The superior access to God through Christ (9:11-15).

The writer pointed out the limited access to God through the old covenant and the tabernacle system. Now he demonstrates a greater access to God through Jesus and the new covenant.

In verse 12 the writer uses an illustration from the Day of Atonement to show that our great High Priest (Jesus) was not limited by the imperfect ordinances of the Levitical system.

In contrast to the yearly repeated entrances of the high priest into the Holy of Holies, Christ "entered in once" and for all time. He had a permanent abiding place in the presence of God, a position never obtained by the high priests of the old covenant.

Jesus offers superior access to God because his offering is superior. "The blood of bulls and of goats" was adequate in expiating ceremonial guilt but inadequate in expiating moral guilt. It is Christ's blood which purges the conscience of moral guilt and provides the forgiveness which gives the guilty sinner peace. It also cleanses continually from all defilement, thus enabling the sanctified believer to have fellowship with the living God (1 John 1:7).

By offering himself once for all by the blood which He shed, and by the eternal redemption which He secured, Christ has become the Mediator of the new covenant so that those who have been called by their faith have assured possession of the promised "eternal inheritance."

III. The lasting sufficiency of Christ's death (9:16-28)

"Testament" generally means covenant. In verses 16 and 17 it is used by the writer to mean will. A will is an arrangement of possessions, and has force only when the death of the person who made the will has been established. It was essential for Christ to die if the promised inheritance (verse 15) was to pass to believers. The illustration cannot be pressed too far because Christ is not dead but alive.

It was a fixed principle of the law that, almost without exception, all things were purified by blood, and that "without shedding of blood" there was no redemption. The writer looked back at Exodus 24:6-8 and compared the teaching with the shedding of the blood of Jesus. The writer is concerned with the new covenant's ratification by Jesus' shed blood which guarantees forgiveness to those who accept the conditions.

The sacrifice of Jesus was complete and final. This is evidence by the fact He died once only. If a repeated offering were necessary for each successive age, then there would have been many incarnations and many deaths. As it is, there was only one incarnation and one death, which is sufficient proof that a full atonement has been made; sin has been "put away." That is the final penalty of sin or eternal death is overcome for the believer.

In verse 27 the writer presents another illustration to prove the finality of Jesus' work. In history a man is born, lives and dies but once, and nothing remains but "the judgment" of God. An account of his life must be given to God who will pronounce judgment. Actually God judges a person each moment of each day. However, with death the opportunity of forgiveness ends.

During the Revolutionary War, General Washington's army was reduced at one time to great straits, and the people were greatly distressed. One of them who left his home with anxious heart one day, as he was passing the edge of a wood near the camp, heard the sound of a voice. He stopped to listen, and looking between the trunks of the large trees he saw General Washington engaged in prayer. He passed quietly on, that he might not disturb him; and on returning home, told his family, "America will prevail," and then related what he had heard and seen.

SCRAPBOOK

My thank you poem to God

He lay there...
with the very appearance of my Dad.

He lay there...
but it was no occasion to be sad.

His former life
of pain and strife had been replaced;
A peaceful look, a restful pose
was in its place.

The quiet tears
contained the thought:
"The penalty for sin was bought."

A perfect time to worship God
and thank him for his love.
To realize and count anew
His blessings from above.

God's promise of assurance
brought comfort to my soul.
The warning thoughts of heaven
ruled out the words like "cold."

At the cross roads

Dear Jesus, the road seems long and dreary,
No flowers or rests along the way—
Clouds whirl overhead and my heart is weary,
As I trudge up hill at the ending of the day.

I dread the long night with its silence and fears,
And I can't see a star in the skies—
I feel so unloved—and abandoned—
And tears flow unbidden from my eyes.

My road was not ever so toilsome and rough,
Where are the flowers, the songbirds, the light?
And the joys I once knew—and where, my God, are you?
Please come back and drive away my night.

—Lo! I heard as I sobbed in despair—
His voice so tender, so loving and warm,
My child, I am here, it was you who left me
Back at the crossroads, in spite of my plea.

I knew this road was rough, so I followed behind,
To guard you and help you, my own—
Let me wipe away your tears—now give me your hand,
Together we'll travel the road that leads Home.

—Mamie W. Lenaz
Gulfport

You never get a second chance to
make a good first impression.

The man who has not tasted the bitter
does not know what the sweet is.

He didn't have much time to grow
but neither did the thief.
His trust in God, his child-like faith
changed trouble to relief.

I asked God many years ago
to let Wayne Waldron live,
Just long enough to know the Lord
and his whole heart he'd give.

God answers every prayer I pray
and ask him to fulfill.
I'm glad he answered this request
and so complete his will.

And now I must share Jesus,
more urgent than before
For other ones are standing
before the very door.

Dear God, please help me to be bold
and share your message true,
That friends and loved ones everywhere
may come to know you, too.

—Betty Waldron Davis
Meridian

My friend —

You think you hold in your hands
a worthwhile reality...
and yet, all along
you continue to wonder
and wander
and search.
You look for answers
without knowing the questions...
It crushes my heart
to know
that you may destroy
the person I know
you to be...
I pray that you'll only
stop
and look to Jesus
for all your answers.

—Lea Crawley, Teacher
Okolona, MS.

Heart's desire

The overwhelming desire of my heart,
The supreme motivation of my deeds,
The compelling urge of my thoughts,
The sustaining energy of my body,
Is to be found well-pleasing in thy sight.

When I fail in this one all-important point,

My heart is heavy,
My deeds are pointless,
My thoughts are muddled,
My body is weary.
When I am acceptable to thee,
My heart sings,
My deeds fructify,
My thoughts clarify,
My body takes wings.
Please help me to be
All you want me to be.

—Clarence Cutrell

Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote:
"There is no friend like an old friend
who has shared our morning days, no
greeting like his welcome, no homage
like his praise."

All of us would like to have old friends. But have you ever stopped to think that old friends are not made in a hurry? If you would like to have such friends in the years to come, you had better start making new friends now. Sturdy friends, like sturdy beams, take time to season.

Go at this matter thoughtfully. Select persons you feel pretty sure could be the kind of friends you could prize in later years. Then start the gentle, gradual seasoning process. How? Ralph Waldo Emerson gave us the answer. "The only way to have a friend is to be a friend."—Cheer

Life and Work Lesson

When God seems far away

By Joel E. Haire, pastor
First Church, Crystal Springs
Psalms 42:1-8, 43:1-4

A Southern Baptist church was located in a community where many of the members depended on dairy farming for their livelihood. A drought hit the area. Week after week there was no rain. Only a few scattered clouds brought hope that turned into disappointment. From time to time there were prayer requests for rain. When members offered prayers at church gatherings they asked God for rain. No rain came. There was a feeling of discouragement in the community. Some wondered why God seemed so far away in their time of difficulty.

When revival time came around someone suggested that the church have an all-night prayer meeting to pray for revival and for rain. Members responded by signing up for prayer periods which began on Saturday and concluded at the Sunday morning worship hour. This was the first day of revival which began like so many others, without a cloud in the sky. However, by the eleven o'clock hour dark clouds had appeared. The visiting evangelist stood to preach. He announced the subject of his message, "Behold Your God." Immediately the rain came. Soon ditches were filled. The entire community received a much needed rain. Even more important than the rain was an awareness of God's presence during the revival. Hearts and minds were refreshed through a renewed assurance of God's spiritual blessings.

It is easy to appreciate God's closeness when you have felt far away from him. The psalmist experienced such a contrast. He knew no greater misery in his own personal life than when God seemed far away. Psalms 42 and 43 offer us a look into his misery and his response to it.

I. Thirsty soul (42:1-3)

Psalm 42 begins with the vivid picture of a thirsty soul. A thirsty hind had expected to find water at a certain brook. After a long journey this desperate animal arrived only to find dry sand where once water had flowed. She searched in every possible location but found no water. Each place she looked brought disappointment. She knew what she was looking for and was not confused about her need. However, the frantic search was difficult and discouraging. Every dried

up spring mocked her unsatisfied thirst. "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God" (42:1). The man who wrote those words was reminded of his thirst for God. He knew what he was looking for and was not confused about his need. He needed God. How fortunate is the person who recognizes his need for God. That is a giant step in the right direction. One who is thirsty for God and does not acknowledge that thirst will fight a losing battle for a meaningful life. A soul that is thirsty for God will never be satisfied with other things.

The psalmist was aware of both the existence and the extent of his thirst. He was not like a group of related friends sipping tea on a cool day. Rather his was a tearful and exhausting thirst. His diet had been made up of tears. He found himself in necessity in a strange land. His miserable stay was magnified by the surrounding jeers of pagans who continually said to him, "Where is thy God?" (42:3). This poet was certain of two needs. He needed God's presence and he needed God's answers. Only God's presence could answer those questions that were thrown at him like waves of defeat.

Questions that come from godless people cannot be answered by our own cleverness or in our own strength. Rather those questions can be answered by the presence of God in our daily lives. The godless are at home with our arguments, but they have no defense before the presence of the living God.

II. Thoughtful search (42:4-8)

In the midst of his misery the psalmist made a wonderful discovery. He discovered that those who have great experiences with God can also have good memories. A true worship experience is not easily forgotten. A Christian does not want to forget those times when he felt a special closeness with God in his life.

The poet's thoughtful search through past experiences of worship gave him new strength and encouragement. There were memories of good music and shouts of praise. He could remember worshippers crowding together at the sacred courts. These thoughts brought him to a reality that still existed in his life. No one could take it away from him. He would not let outward circumstances dim this inner glow that had been kindled in

days-gone by. Even the waves of distress that seemed to flow over him could not wash away those precious memories of the days when God seemed very near.

III. Thankful solution (43:1-4)

Solutions to our problems do not always bring ideal circumstances. Sometimes God changes us more than he changes the circumstances about us.

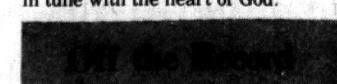
Psalm 43 does not present a picture of changed circumstances. It does present the picture of a changed attitude. Despair has been turned into hope. Gloom has been invaded by rays of light.

There had been a time of conflict when God's servant was against an ungodly nation. He asked God to plead his cause and deliver him (43:1).

There was a time of conquest when the psalmist felt his heart filling with hope and waiting for God. His hopes were centered in what he believed God would do for him (43:3).

There would be a time of concert. The psalmist believed he would once again go to the altar of God. What a joyous experience awaited him! Then he could express in music his praise toward God.

Conflict is sure to come in our lives. Sometimes we may think God seems far away. However, with every conflict there is the potential of conquest. I cannot think of a greater concert on earth than when the heart of man gets in tune with the heart of God.



A minister wrote a letter of appreciation to be copied and mailed to members of his church. It read: "My very dear friends: I will not use formality and address you as ladies and gentlemen, because I know you so well..."

A pharmacist left his drugstore to go eat lunch. To his teenage helper he said, "You watch the store for a few minutes while I'm away."

The phone rang in a few minutes. The young man picked up the phone and said, "Hello."

"Can you fill a prescription for sulfa drugs and penicillin?" inquired the caller.

The young man paused and answered, "When I said 'Hello,' I told you all I know."

Uniform Lesson

Author-ity . . . response-ability

By Jim Keith, pastor
First, Gulfport

Deuteronomy 16:18 to 17:20; 24:1-22
Christopher Wren, the versatile English architect of another century, once evaluated his impression of a newly and nearly constructed cathedral as "awful." His response was not meant to be uncomplimentary for he used the word in its original intent: "full of awe, wonder, magnificence, and glory."

Often to know the source of a word is to recognize its substance. "Authority" is such a word. It is derived from the basic root "author" and suggests that the power one possesses is dependent upon the power of the author who gives it (e.g. Matthew 7:28-29; 28:18-19).

"Responsibility" is a hybrid term. It is the child born to the marriage between the words "ability" and "response." It accomplishes its intended destiny by conveying not only the inherent potential for doing ("ability") but also the accompanying effort required to release that potential ("response").

God as author has given to man the authority and ability for self-government (Romans 13:1). To be responsive to God is to be responsible toward God's delegated authority (Romans 13:2-7). It is upon this foundation that the Deuteronomic text derives its ethical teachings.

The question underlying the instructions given in the present passage (16:18-17:20, 24:1-22) is, "What is the responsibility of God's people toward the divinely appointed authority of self-government?" The Providential response comes from two intersecting, interrelated and interacting positions.

I. In providing responsible leadership (16:18-17:20)

Three spheres of leadership are acknowledged in the present passage: (1) national leaders ("kings"), (2) local leaders ("judges"), and (3) religious leaders ("priests"). Within each position the authority accepted becomes the responsibility expected (e.g. Luke 12:48; Matthew 25:14-30).

1. National Leaders (17:14-20): Israel's national leader, a king, originated in the circuitous path from what others had, to what the people wanted, to what God allowed (1 Samuel 8:4-22). But God agreed to their desires and demands only with specific stipulations imposed. In choosing their highest leader they were responsible

select (1) one from among them, and (2) the one whom God chose (17:15). The personal characteristics which scripture taught to be essential within the one chosen were: (1) nationality (17:15), (2) spirituality (17:18-19), (3) propriety (17:16-17), and (4) legality (17:20). Whether it is a king, prime minister, or president, a national leader is responsible to the supreme authority beyond him or her. It would be wise for any nation, and especially our nation, to consider the qualities God expects within those to whom he delegates his authority to govern.

Local Leaders (16:18-20): Since local leaders often rise to the level of national prominence the aforementioned expectations should probably be applied to provincial leadership as well. The Divine Will does give additional perspective concerning the qualifications and responsibilities imposed upon local leadership. Such leaders are expected to provide (1) representative leadership (16:18), (2) impartial leadership (16:18-19), and (3) just leadership (16:20). The concluding promise suggests that proper self-government provides its own guarantee for continued use of the territory (16:20).

3. Religious Leaders (17:1-13): Religious leaders in the day of the text had political responsibilities included in their task (17:8-13). Of course, most cases which go to court are matters of relationship, and the religious community has as much reason, responsibility and recourse in dealing with such as does the structure of government. In exercising this responsibility religious leadership is expected (1) to investigate thoroughly (17:2-4), and (2) to judge properly (17:5-7). The reason for doing so is to "purge the evil from among you" (17:7,12). The New Testament equivalent to this (1 Corinthians 5:1-6:11) is similar in reason (5:6-7,13) but not synonymous in result (5:5).

II. In providing responsible citizenship (24:1-22)

The success of leadership is found in faithful "followship," which is better defined as responsible citizenship. Social man must also be political if he is to properly regulate the society in which he lives. The character of the individuals who comprise society determines the quality of the society in which the individuals reside. For that reason, the scripture lesson specifies personal citizenship

responsibility.

1. Stability in the institution of marriage (24:1-5; Matthew 19:3-12; 1 Corinthians 7:10-14; Ephesians 5:23-33).

2. Respectability toward life (24:7) and livelihood (24:6; Ephesians 4:28; II Thessalonians 3:6-13).

3. Reliability in providing for the underprivileged. The passage includes (1) the sick (24:8-9), (2) the poor (24:14-15), (3) the needy (24:19-22; Matthew 25:31-46), and (4) the displaced, which incorporates the alien, the fatherless, and the widow (24:17-18; I Timothy 5:3-16).

4. Dependability in the payment of debts (24:10-13; Romans 13:6-10).

5. Accountability for personal wrongdoing (24:16; Galatians 6:7-10).

Conclusion: Whether in leadership or in citizenship God's people are responsible to God's given authority for self government. That political and social responsibility is best defined in Paul's letter written while subject to the authority of a Roman prison when he challenged: "Whatever happens, let your citizenship (the Greek word for the English "politics") be equal to the death and resurrection of Jesus" (personal translation of Philippians 1:27). Upon that AUTHOR-ITY we each find our RESPONSE-ABILITY (also: Ephesians 2:19-22; I Peter 2:11-12; Ephesians 4:1; Colossians 3:17,23-24).

Melrose (Yazoo) will celebrate golden year

Melrose Church, Yazoo County, will celebrate its Golden Anniversary Aug. 9.

The morning activities will be followed by dinner on the grounds and a 2 o'clock service of celebration.

S. Elmore Byler, pastoral missionary for the Home Mission Board, SBC, will be the speaker. Byler will continue preaching for revival services through Friday evening August 14.

Robert F. Lowe is pastor.

Reputation is precious, but character is priceless.

Many a blunt word has a sharp edge.